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[In the London Magazine, to which we are indebted for this article, the following ſpeeches are thus arranged; Dr Anderſon, Mr Dundas, Mr Lorimer, Mr Moriſon, Mr Croſbie, Dr Macqueen, Lord Preſident, Dr Robertſon, and Mr Freebairn: we arrange them in the order in which they were delivered.]

Rev. Dr Anderſon, at Chirnſide. "Notwithſtanding ſo many judgements of this Venerable Aſſembly, the oppoſition in the pariſh of St Ninians has not laid aſide the ſword and buckler. It appears to me, that the preſbytery and ſynod have unhappily gone along with the oppoſition, and explained away the ſentences of the ſupreme church-judicature. I think it unneceſſary to enter upon the diſpute, whether we have a power to tranſport [tranſlate] or not? Surely we ſhew our power as much by doing it as by not doing it. Let us not involve our church in a conteſt with the civil power. The good effects of the conduct of the cool part of our church appear in the acquieſcence of the people in the exerciſe of patronage. I think this is not a violent ſettlement: there is almoſt all the landed intereſt on the ſide of the preſentee; and we all know that the landed intereſt influences the people."

Rev. Mr Lorimer, at Yarrow. "We do not ſeem, Sir, ſo much to be diſputing how we ſhall proceed under an eſtabliſhed form of church-policy, as what form we ſhall chuſe. Were patronage to be abolished,

aboliſhed, we ſhould undoubtedly be in a much worſe ſituation than while it obtains. Learning amongſt our clergy would fall to nothing. Who would educate his ſon for the miniſtry, if mere prejudice could keep him out of a ſettlement, the weakeſt prejudices of the weakeſt of men? Were patronage to be aboliſhed, the ſettlement of a clergyman would be like a borough-election; the people would be ſolicited, and led into idleneſs and vice, inſtead of ſubmitting calmly to the miniſtry of whoever is placed among them by regular authority. The miſchief ariſes from ourſelves, from our own diſputes in church-courts, and from pamphlets circulated through the country with a view to ſtir up the people to oppoſition, pamphlets which have a very bad tendency, which can be juſtified on no pretence but that deteſtable one, to do evil that good may come."

Mr Solicitor-General Dundas. "I need not repeat the ſentiments which I have uniformly profeſſed and maintained with regard to the law of patronage. I dare ſay, after what has paſſed in the civil courts, no man entertains a doubt, that when the church refuſes, without a ſufficient objection, either in point of morals or in point of orthodoxy, to ſettle a probationer in a vacant pariſh, the patron may retain the emoluments. A diſtinction however has been attempted, inſinuated rather than boldly ſpoken out, between the caſe of a probationer and that of a ſettled miniſter: but I ſpeak out my opinion boldly, that there is no ſuch diſtinction. If the preſbytery refuſes to tranſport, it goes to the general aſſembly; and I own it is there final. But let us attend how it is final. It is final only as to the eccleſiaſtical right, and is by no means final as to the civil right. I am ſorry when I hear gentlemen putting the civil law in oppoſition to the eccleſiaſtical law. It has been aſked, What would Knox have ſaid? I will anſwer the queſtion ſatisfactorily, becauſe I will mention what he did ſay. In 1579 [1565] a meſſage was ſent by Knox and his brethren to Queen Mary upon the very ſubject of ſettling churches, in which the right of patrons is expreſsly acknowledged, and only immoral or unſound clergy remonſtrated againſt. Such was the language of Knox, in an aſſembly whoſe notions, whoſe proceedings, whoſe language, were regulated by him. Let us then not hear of ideal dangers to our conſtitution. We have the very conſtitution of John Knox, the very conſtitution that he deviſed, that he prayed, that he wiſhed for. The firſt Reformers had a decent and proper regard for civil right: but our modern Reformers, who can talk with perfect ſafety as widely as they pleaſe, would deprive patrons of their right altogether; and then they and the people would have the choice of the miniſters."

Rev. Dr Macqueen, at Edinburgh.* "I have a few things to throw out, which perhaps may have ſome weight with the Aſſembly. I pretend not to argue deeply on law; but there are ſome things in the law which we muſt all underſtand. Sir, he who talks of the civil law oppoſed to the eccleſiaſtical law, talks idly. There is no ſuch oppoſition in our church; there is none ſuch contended for by any one amongſt us. But let us, I pray you, be well informed what is the law, and weigh it with that due attention which the importance of the ſubject requires. Sir, I do maintain, (and I hold the authorities in my hand which juſtify it), that, according both to the letter and ſpirit of the law, this church has a power of tranſlating, or refuſing to tranſlate, a clergyman, from one charge to another, as to her ſhall ſeem good upon a ſerious conſideration of the *majus bonum eccleſiæ*. This is a power which ſhe has exerciſed from age to age without controul."——Here he appealed to the hiſtory of the church, and proceeded to confirm his aſſertion by ſeveral acts of parliament, particularly act 116. 1592 [xxxi. 74.], act 5. 1690 [xvi. 201.], and the memorable act of union, 1707. Having reaſoned on particular clauſes in theſe acts, he obſerved concerning the act 1712 [xxxi. 75.], reſtoring to patrons their former rights, that it could not poſſibly be ſuppoſed to enact the diſſolution of the fundamental parts of our eccleſiaſtical conſtitution, and that not one clauſe was to be found in it containing an infringement of the acts above mentioned, and of the juriſdiction of the church, which was thereby unalterably eſtabliſhed. He afterwards took notice of the act 1719 [xxxiii. 231.]; and concluded, upon the whole, that a power of granting, or refuſing, the tranſlation of

* [In this ſpeech we have made ſome alterations and additions, with which we were favoured by a gentleman of great accuracy, who was preſent.]

miniſters

miniſters from one pariſh to another, was an eſſential part of the eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction of the church of Scotland, was fully eſtabliſhed by law, and had been uniformly exerciſed by its judicatories in every age. He added, that this was the firſt time he had heard an objection ſtated againſt this power; and he ſubmitted it to the Venerable Aſſembly, whether that objection had any foundation in hiſtory or law.—"If this power then [proceeded he] be admitted, as undoubtedly it muſt, let us next conſider how we are to exerciſe that power in the preſent caſe; that is to ſay, let us conſider the expediency or inexpediency of tranſlating Mr Thomſon from Gargunnock to St Ninians. And to me this is a queſtion of almoſt as eaſy ſolution as any that I have known. Why, Sir, there is not even a ſingle reaſon, by which a tranſlation can be approved of, aſſigned for this tranſlation. The gentlemen who ſupport the preſentee, are moſt of them of another communion; ſome of whom, I ſuſpect, would ſcruple to hear you, Sir, ſay grace at their tables. I do not ſay this in diſparagement of them: I have a great reſpect for many of them. But however eſtimable and reſpectable their character may be on other accounts, yet I will be pardoned to ſay, that their behaviour in this affair, and their keeping ſo great a pariſh for more than five years deſtitute of a paſtor, hath not been quite ſo agreeable to a regard for religion, or to the dictates of humanity and equity, to which they are well known to be attentive on other occaſions. And ſurely, Sir, the concurrence of thoſe of another communion in favour of this preſentee, ſhould not be ſeriouſly mentioned.—— I have heard this oppoſition treated as frivolous, as contemptible, as factious. Sir, I lived fifteen years in the near neighbourhood of the pariſh of St Ninians; and I know the people there to be a worthy, a reſpectable commonalty. They ſhewed their firm loyalty to the government in the worſt of times, and when they were expoſed to many hardſhips on that account. A conſiderable body of them took arms in the time of the late rebellion, and received hearty thanks from General Blakeney for their good ſervices. When a great part of the rebel-army were quartered amongſt them, and after the unfortunate battle of Falkirk, notwithſtanding all the influence that was uſed, not above three or four perſons, and who were in the meaneſt rank, in that large pariſh, could be induced to join with them. It gives me pain to think of their preſent oppreſſion. We at leaſt, Sir, ought to treat them with more kindneſs. They deſerve it from us. They have adhered firmly to the church, though ſurrounded with ſectaries, though almoſt at the fountain-head of that unhappy ſeceſſion which has ſo much diſtracted our church, and which ſuch proceedings as many members of this aſſembly ſeem to favour muſt wofully increaſe."—— He then proceeded to mention the reaſons of their oppoſition to the preſentee; in which they declare, that they think him altogether unqualified to be their miniſter, as his voice is ſo inſufficient for their large church, and as, on account of his weakneſs of bodily conſtitution, he is unable to diſcharge even but a ſmall part of the miniſterial functions amongſt them.—After this he endeavoured to ſhew, that the tranſlation of Mr Thomſon to St Ninians was altogether inconſiſtent with a due regard to the intereſts of religion, and the good of the church, and left it to thoſe who poſſeſſed the talent of reconciling contradictions to prove the contrary.—His concluſion was to this purpoſe. "In ſhort, Sir, with reſpect to the comparative reaſonableneſs and expediency of granting or refuſing this tranſlation, it is to me perfectly evident, that there is not the leaſt ground for heſitation; and that we ſhall act in a manner inconſiſtent with our duty, inconſiſtent with the terms of the commiſſion by which we ſit as members of this aſſembly, and in a manner derogatory to the intereſts of religion, and of this church, if we do not affirm the ſentence of the ſynod of Perth and Stirling, which refuſed to tranſlate the preſentee from Gargunnock to St Ninians. I have ſpoke, Sir, with a degree of warmth and earneſtneſs on this occaſion, beyond what my bodily ſtrength at preſent can well allow; but an affecting ſenſe of the importance of this cauſe, and my deep concern for the inhabitants of this great pariſh, have prompted me to this exertion.—I can ſtand no longer."—— [Dr Macqueen had been ill: he therefore ſtood with his cane in his left hand; and leaning with his right hand on a ſtout country-elder; and being a jolly bulky man, with a ſtrong voice, and firm utterance, his appearance all together was uncommon and ſtriking.]

Rev. Mr Moriſon, at Paiſley. "The grievance of patronage is an old doctrine; but I hope it ſhall never be an exploded one. We have heard this day, that the patron has the power of tranſporting, or not tranſporting. By and by we may hear, that he has the right of ordaining. If the one power be allowed, the other may follow without much worſe conſequences; for if the good of ſouls is not to be conſulted in the ſettling of a miniſter, but it is to be merely a matter of civil right, why truly we cannot be ſaid to have miniſters, goſpel-miniſters, at all. But I hope better things. I truſt it is not ſo bad with us. I truſt that there is a ſpirit reviving in Scotland to vindicate and maintain the great privileges of our national church. We have had pamphlets upon the popular ſide mentioned with great aſperity. Sir, we know there have been pamphlets circulated upon both ſides; and ſurely pamphlets in favour of Chriſtian liberty ought not to be ſo treated in this Venerable Aſſembly. Alas! Sir, are we to have no regard for what every motive ought to incline us to encourage? But ſince theſe pamphlets have been mentioned, I muſt declare my hopes that they will be attended with that ſucceſs which every real friend to the church of Scotland would wiſh."

Mr Crosbie. "Of late there has ariſen a kind of ſcepticiſm as to the conſtitution of the church of Scotland. By and by, I fear, we ſhall have no conſtitution at all. But, Sir, if that fatal period ſhall ever arrive to our church, it muſt be owing to the groſs negligence, or the culpable, the treacherous conduct of her members. Who talks of putting the civil power in oppoſition to the eccleſiaſtical? I am ſure, whoever does, has no juſt notion of the true conſtitution of either. Sir, our eccleſiaſtical conſtitution was once, I confeſs, ambulatory. But, Sir, at the union between England and Scotland it was fixed; it was then ſo interwoven with the civil conſtitution, that, if it is infringed, I maintain, that, *ipſo facto*, the union muſt fall in pieces. Where is the myſtery, where is the abſurdity, where is the contradiction, in maintaining, that the civil right of the patron, and the eccleſiaſtical right inherent in the church, ſhould ſo temper each other, ſhould ſo coaleſce, as together to compoſe that kind of ſettlement of a miniſter in a vacant pariſh, as ſhall fully anſwer the ends of the inſtitution of a ſacred order of men? I maintain that ſuch is the conſtitution of the church of Scotland. The people have not an elective, but they have a negative, voice; and the church is bound to hear that voice. In the caſe before us, the negative is ſo ſtrong, that I muſt be of opinion, that it would be inexpedient to ſettle Mr Thomſon at St Ninians; and therefore I am for affirming the ſentence under review."

Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion. [*Dundas.*] "I will not take up the time of the Venerable Aſſembly at this late hour of the night: but I have heard doctrines which I cannot allow to paſs without ſome animadverſion. Gentlemen ſeem to give up any oppoſition between the civil and eccleſiaſtical power in the ſettling of vacant pariſhes; but ſtill they virtually maintain what is tantamount to it. They take care to ſecure to the church ſuch a diſcretionary power as muſt render the influence of the civil power of very little effect in thoſe matters. I own, I am for every juriſdiction being confined within its own proper ſphere. So far as unſoundneſs in principles, ſo far as immorality in practice, can be objected to a preſentee, let the church have full power to judge, and to reject. But let it not be underſtood as law, that the church has an arbitrary power to fruſtrate a preſentation without a ſufficient cauſe. We have had the Seceſſion mentioned: I muſt ſay, that I have no ſuch idea of the Seceders as many people have. I love the Seceders as good and loyal ſubjects to the King, to the Proteſtant ſucceſſion; and I had occaſion to know, that in the year 1745 his Majeſty had not more zealous defenders."

Dr William Robertſon. "The queſtion before us has been diſcuſſed with ſo much ability on all hands, that little remains to be ſaid. Perhaps it were to be wiſhed, that we had ſomewhat leſs vehemence in our deliberations; but I own that vehemence is incident to all aſſemblies of this nature. I wiſh gentlemen who are ſo zealous in ſupport of the rights claimed by the people, would coolly and calmly conſider, whether thoſe rights are well or ill founded; whether they are real or imaginary; real, as belonging to them from ſome juſt title, or in the nature of our eccleſiaſtical conſtitution; imaginary, as being only the fond conceits of men eager for influence, and impatient

patient of regular appointments. If thoſe rights be of the former kind, no doubt our brethren who exert themſelves with ſuch a ſtrenuous aſſiduity, and ſo warm a zeal, to ſupport them, do well. But if, on the other hand, thoſe rights be of the latter kind, I truſt that there is not one in this Aſſembly but who will candidly acknowledge, that to ſupport them is wrong, is unjuſt, is impolitic, is what good men ought not to do. Let us pauſe, Sir, for a little, and if poſſible ſuſpend for a moment that ſpirit of party which, there is no denying, actuates this Aſſembly to an amazing degree, and I am afraid renders it difficult, very difficult, for us to treat any ſubject with the becoming moderation and temper of diſpaſſionate inquiry. Let us go back into remote times, into times long antecedent to any diſputes between patrons and people. Let us examine the origin of our endowments, and have a juſt idea of that fundamental queſtion, before we aſſume to ourſelves principles, the juſtice or injuſtice of which muſt depend upon that queſtion. How then was it that the clergy became at firſt intitled to the revenues which our church affords? Was it not that rich men founded benefices, and appropriated a certain ſum for the emolument of clergy who ſhould be appointed to ſerve the cure of thoſe benefices? Is it not clear, is it not juſt, is it not common ſenſe, that thoſe who founded ſuch benefices, and the heirs of the founders, ſhould have the right of nominating the miniſters? And what harm could ariſe from this right, if rationally and ſoberly viewed in its true light? The patrons have no power to nominate improper perſons. *There* the eccleſiaſtical power has its influence, has a check upon the civil right. The church alone can give a licence to preach; the church alone can ordain. If there are any objections either to the life or doctrine of a preſentee, the church can, and always does, put a negative upon him. Patrons then can only chuſe certain individuals out of a number of men, all of whom are ſufficient for the work of the miniſtry, all of whom no people with pious and honeſt intentions, untainted by prejudice, uninflamed by falſe zeal, can refuſe to accept of as their paſtors, as men who, both by their preaching and by their example, may conduct them in the road of religion. Whence then all theſe notions of an election in the people, of an election into offices with the emoluments of which the people have no concern? As to the queſtion of tranſlation, Sir, we all know what ſcanty livings thoſe of our church in general are. Many wiſe and good men have wiſhed that we had a little more room for ambition, that we had ſome eſtabliſhments of higher advantage than any which we have at preſent, in order to ſtimulate a laudable emulation to excel. As we now ſtand, we have a few ſettlements better than others; and of theſe we muſt make the moſt for the encouragement of merit. Shall we then deprive ourſelves even of theſe ſmall advantages? Shall it be underſtood, that when a clergyman is once ſettled in a pariſh, the pooreſt or the moſt remote, he is to have no higher views, no hopes of any advancement? Surely, Sir, this cannot be reaſonably maintained. Surely it is better that clergymen ſhould not be doomed to liſtleſs obſcurity, but have any encouragement that it is in our power to give, to cultivate learning, and diſtinguiſh themſelves for their abilities."

Rev. Mr Freebairn, at Dumbarton. "I have lived, Sir, to hear a great deal ſaid in this Venerable Aſſembly upon the power of the civil law; more, I will venture to ſay, than in purer and bolder times of our church would have been permitted: for, Sir, to raiſe the civil law of the country at the expence of debaſing its eccleſiaſtical law, however it may ſooth the ears of ſtateſmen, and the ſycophants of ſtateſmen, is at leaſt not very becoming in a church-court. Sir, I am ſorry to find the Reverend doctors of our church coming over to this new mode of reaſoning. They have received ſome new light which I cannot take upon me to explain; for I am what may be called an old-faſhioned Preſbyterian. I allow that we are to attend to the laws of the land; but, Sir, we muſt attend to another and a higher conſideration, the laws of Jeſus Chriſt. We are intruſted with the government of his church. We are to judge, in the ſpirit of the goſpel, who are fit ſhepherds for his flocks; and while we keep in view this great, this important truſt, we will find the civil law but a ſecondary conſideration, however reſpectable.—Sir, I was ſorry to hear ſo much ſaid in favour of ambition in our clergy, and that too by a member of ſo high rank. If ſuch be the motives of a clergyman for entering into holy orders, he may riſe inthe world, but he will

will never be eſteemed. Our church is not formed for worldly ambition. By the ſame pains and coſtly education neceſſary to qualify us for the work of the miniſtry, we might make our way to thouſands and ten thouſands. The true ambition, the honour, and the glory, of a miniſter of the church of Scotland, ſhould be a faithful and conſcientious diſcharge of the duties of that office, the importance of which ſpreads as wide as the eternal concerns of mankind. By ſuch a conduct he may hope to attain to what is infinitely ſuperior to any ſordid views of temporal gain, or even to all the applauſe of men which literary performances may acquire.—— We have been told, that the intereſts of learning would ſuffer, ſhould the choice or approbation of their paſtor be permitted to the people. Sir, I am under no ſuch apprehenſion. I ſee with pleaſure many young men choſen by the people who for real learning may vie with any of the unpopular divines. I maintain, that a contrary principle muſt be much more fatal to learning. Divines who know that it is abſolutely neceſſary for them to be acceptable to the people, will at leaſt have a grave and decent deportment, will at leaſt lead ſuch a life as is favourable to the calm purſuits of literature; whereas, if it ſhall be underſtood, that the benefices of our church are to be obtained merely by the favour of patrons, room will be given for the loweſt arts of riſing, for the vileſt flattery, and proſtitution of character, to pleaſe the patrons. Inſtead of ſcholars among our divines, we ſhall have jolly companions; men who, inſtead of reproving the vices of the great, as in conſcience bound to do, ſhall ſooth and cajole them in thoſe courſes which lead to deſtruction.—— It gives me both concern and indignation to hear our fellow-chriſtians, the commons of this country, treated with a kind of ſupercilious contempt, and that too by clergymen, who ought to love and value them, otherwiſe I am afraid they will be of very little ſervice in their profeſſion. Sir, the common people are not ſo weak, are not ſo prejudiced, as ſome amongſt us would repreſent them. The common people have common ſenſe, that great gift of Heaven, which neither rank nor riches, no, nor even education, can confer. The common people have a plain, a ſolid diſcernment, which enables them to diſtinguiſh between right and wrong, perhaps more judiciouſly than they can do who are over-refined; and, as a friend to liberty, and to the great original rights of mankind, independent of all accidental and adventitious circumſtances, I ſhall always warmly ſupport the cauſe of the common people.—— It has been ſaid, that the deciſions of our church have occaſioned all our unhappineſs. I agree in the propoſition, though in a different ſenſe from what it was meant by thoſe who threw it out. Sir, the rigorous, the unconſtitutional deciſions of our church, have been harſhly attempting to wreath about our necks that galling yoke of patronage, which neither we nor our fathers have been able to bear. I have no diſtruſt of the civil authority. We all agree in having the moſt ſincere attachment to our moſt gracious ſovereign. The beſt Preſbyterians have ever been the ſteadieſt friends to the houſe of Brunſwick, as it is to the glorious revolution that we are indebted for ſo much civil, ſo much religious liberty. I am perſuaded our moſt gracious ſovereign has no hand in the oppreſſion which this country ſuffers from patronage; and, were the matter properly repreſented to him, I dare believe he would readily afford relief. But, Sir, we have certain petty tyrants amongſt us, certain underſtrappers, who, from a paultry ambition, and a wretched deſire of providing for creatures connected with them, have been driving our eccleſiaſtical policy to an extremity of rigour. But, Sir, the ſpirit of the people of this country cannot long tamely brook ſuch uſage. We know what they have done in former times; and it is with the utmoſt ſatisfaction that I ſee ſuch exertions as have of late appeared. In the preſent caſe there is the utmoſt inexpediency in the propoſed ſettlement. I cannot but conſider ſeriouſly what a handle we ſhall give to our enemies, if we order ſo violent a ſettlement. If we order ſo violent a ſettlement, we ſhall ſcatter ſeveral thouſands of his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, ſeveral thouſands who have a warm, an affectionate regard for our church, who are loth to leave us, and who will not leave us unleſs we drive them from us by our oppreſſive conduct. As a good ſubject, I muſt oppoſe ſuch conduct. If our people are once driven from that church in which they have been educated, I do not ſay that they will become Papiſts, for that is not the

genius

genius of this country; but it is to be feared, they will be toſſed about by every wind of doctrine, and become the prey of the various deſigning ſectaries which abound amongſt us. Diſſevered from their mother-church, their connection with the excellent conſtitution of their country muſt be not a little looſened. With what heart can they go forth to ſupport a government which treats them ſo unkindly?——I am not moved by the learned, hiſtorical diſquiſition which we have heard with regard to the foundation of eccleſiaſtical benefices. It is now too late in the night to enter into the much-debated queſtion of tithes. But, Sir, I would beg leave to make two obſervations. In the firſt place, that ſuppoſing thoſe who endowed churches to have the power of ſettling miniſters in them, we ought to have a regard to the pious purpoſe of thoſe founders. They ſurely did not mean that their endowments ſhould be uſeleſs. They meant, that they ſhould be conferred on men who might fully anſwer the intention of having a regular miniſtry. We, Sir, as truſtees for thoſe very founders, are to judge of the expediency of ſettlements according to circumſtances: and what circumſtance can be more important, than whether the people approve of the preſentee or not? whether a paſtoral relation in the true Chriſtian ſenſe can be eſtabliſhed between him and them? whether his ſettlement will tend to edification, will be for the good of ſouls? Secondly, Sir, let us not forget our own ſacred duty, our own importance as the miniſters of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt. It is our province to judge whether a preſentee ſhould be ſet over a flock, whatever way the temporal concerns may have been ſettled. It is our province to ſee, that all things be done to edification; and we are traitors to our holy truſt, if we make it ſubſervient to civil conſiderations. Even in a civil view, how much ſuperior is the ſyſtem of the friends of the people to that of thoſe who would have us deſpiſe and oppreſs them! how beautiful, how comfortable, how agreeable to true civil policy, is it to ſee the people of a pariſh on the Lord's day, the day of reſt and religion, walking to church in their beſt cloaths, with chearful countenances and contented hearts, to attend the adminiſtration of divine ordinances by a paſtor whom they love and revere, whom they look upon as their ſpiritual father! Men thus ſituated will be knit together like brethren, and will form the ſureſt defence of our conſtitution both in church and ſtate. Whereas when a paſtor to whom the people are averſe, is thruſt in upon them, they become like ſheep having no ſhepherd; they wander from one place of worſhip to another; their ſpirits are broken, their tempers are ſoured, and they have no encouragement to venture any thing in their country's cauſe. They cannot be excited to fight *pro aris & focis*, for their religion and domeſtic ſecurity. The latter they may perhaps enjoy; but the former is denied them by the regular eſtabliſhment. Sir, whatever timidity or compliance may be found in ſome of the clergy of this church, I am one of thoſe who am not to be bullied by profeſſed lawyers, or men of high office, who have ſeats amongſt us. Here there is no diſtinction. We are all brethren in one ſenſe; we have all an equal right to judge, and we ought ſteadily to maintain that right. I am clear that we are not fettered by the civil law when juſtly conſidered. If it has been ſtretched of late, we are not anſwerable. The great intereſts of religion ſhould not ſuffer in our hands. The emblem of the church of Scotland is "*the buſh that burned, and yet was not conſumed.*" I truſt the emblem ſhall be always juſt. Let us honeſtly and boldly do our duty; and, if the church of Scotland muſt be ruined, let not the infamy be on us."

The vote was then called; the form of doing which is this. The ſtate of the vote, which in this caſe was, *Affirm*, or *Reverſe?* being intimated by the Moderator from the chair, the deputy-clerk reads it aloud. He then, with an audible voice, reads from a liſt, arranged according to the ſeveral diſtricts, each member's name; who anſwers either *Affirm* or *Reverſe*. The principal clerk, who ſits at a table in the centre of the houſe, has a column for *Affirm*, and another for *Reverſe*, and marks each vote when given upon the column to which it belongs; and, after the liſt is finiſhed, he delivers his book to the Moderator; who reads to the Houſe how the queſtion has carried. This night it was read out to have carried *Reverſe* by a majority of *two*. Mr Freebairn, and ſome other members who had alſo marked the votes, conteſted this, and maintained that it had carried *Affirm*. A warm debate enſued. Mr

Freebairn

Freebairn ſaid, "This morning, Sir, we were told from the bar, that there would be *cita mors, aut victoria læta*; but, Sir, ſomething very wonderful and unexpected has happened. We have both *cita mors* and *victoria læta*. I aver, that the queſtion carried *Affirm*, and yet it ſeems we muſt hold it to be *Reverſe*." [xxxiii. 478.]

The Houſe at laſt came to a reſolution, that the official authority of their clerk was not to be arraigned, as, till ſome other mode of aſcertaining the reſult of a vote was ſettled, it was abſolutely neceſſary that the report of the clerk ſhould be final. The judgement therefore was, "Reverſe the ſentences of the preſbytery and ſynod, and order the preſbytery to proceed to the ſettlement of Mr Thomſon at St Ninians with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the church." Againſt this judgement many proteſts were taken. [xxxiii. 275.] *

We ſhall only add a repartee of the Rev. *Mr Freebairn's*. In the courſe of ſome of the debates, one *Mr Duff*, a warm country-clergyman, happened to talk of the party againſt his very ſtrongly, and called them his *enemies*. *Principal Robertſon*, upon this, got up, and expatiated on the indecency of the expreſſion, *enemy*, in an aſſembly of Chriſtian divines, where moderation ſhould reign. The thing was like to grow ſomewhat ſerious; and poor *Duff* was not without danger of a reprimand. Mr *Freebairn*, who, though firm, and ſomewhat rough, has good-nature equal to his quickneſs, replied as follows: "Moderator, I am ſorry that a word which has dropped from the mouth of our country-brother, has given ſo much offence to the Reverend Principal. Sir, the Reverend Principal ſhould remember, that he was once young and raw, and warm, like our country-brother. He has now indeed attained to that coolneſs and compoſure, and command of himſelf, ſo well becoming the dignity of his ſtation. But he ſhould not forget, that there was a time when a violent conteſt was in this houſe, when parties ran very high, and when we heard of their leaders under the denomination of *officers* and *ſtuff-officers*; and if theſe are not warlike terms, I know not what can be called ſuch. I ſay, Sir, the Reverend Principal ſhould not forget what he himſelf once was, and ſhould have a feeling of lenity and indulgence for our country-brother, who I am perſuaded thinketh no evil. And, Sir, to go a little further, I do beg leave to maintain, that the word *enemy* may be very well uſed in an aſſembly of Chriſtian divines; for when the ſons of God are met, Satan is in the midſt of them, and he is the great enemy of us all."

* [Two ſhort extracts here given from the Caſe of the Reſpondents, drawn by the Hon. Henry Erſkine, we are obliged to omit for want of room; referring to thoſe we have formerly [xxxiii. 274, 5.] given.]

*** *Our readers will pleaſe to be informed, that the above ſpecimens of oratory, which evidently ſhew the preſent ſtyle of ſpeaking in the* Church of Scotland *to be very different from what has been publiſhed as* Preſbyterian Eloquence, *do by no means give a perfect idea of the abilities diſplayed in the* Venerable Aſſembly. *There were many more ſpeakers than are here mentioned; and of thoſe mentioned our correſpondent candidly ſays, that he has not full notes, and in ſome places has been obliged to do his beſt to ſupply what was wanting.*

From the Leyden Gazette, May 18.

A cure for the diſorder among the horned cattle in Holland. [xxxi. 621. xxxii. 172. 237.]

THE ſick muſt be ſeparated from the well ſo ſoon as poſſible, and put into another ſtall. On the ſecond day of the diſorder, two large cups of blood muſt be taken from the neck or tail; then cover the beaſt well with a blanket; dip a piece of cloth in vinegar, and waſh the mouth, tongue, and teeth, very well with it; alſo ſpout ſome vinegar up the noſe; repeat this waſhing two or three times every twenty-four hours. When much tough ſlime runs from mouth and noſe, give the beaſt four, or not exceeding five, large cups full, at one time, of luke-warm water to drink; this muſt be repeated now and then, by night and by day. Laſtly, take a piece of loaf-bread dipped well in common treacle, thruſt it into the beaſt's mouth as far as the hand can conveniently convey it: if the beaſt does not eat it, ſhut the mouth, and keep the jaws cloſed with the hand until the piece of bread has ſlipped over: this alſo to be repeated now and then.

Trial of this recipe was made on twenty ſick beaſts, and they were all cured: while one from which it was with-held died, though otherwiſe proper care was taken of it.

Governor

Governor Johnſtone's ſpeech, in anſwer to Lord Clive. [202.]

Mr SPEAKER,

I Am clearly of opinion againſt giving leave for bringing in this bill before we have gone through a previous examination of facts, to enable us to form a proper judgement. It is not upon ſuch knowledge as may be acquired from looſe, irregular, unconnected, bold, aſſertions, or from partial ſtudied calculations on paper, thrown together to deceive and miſlead, and merely read by a particular member in his place, where human genius cannot follow the numbers ſo as to diſcover or detect any fraud, that this Houſe ought to proceed in a matter of ſuch moment: but from evidence ſolemnly brought to your bar, and authentic papers laid on your table, whereby truth and falſehood may be compared. The many contradictory accounts we have heard from different ſides of the Houſe, ſhould induce us to this rational ſtep. Except the gentlemen who moved and ſeconded this queſtion, every one who has ſpoken hitherto has called for an inquiry; even thoſe whoſe conduct may be ſuppoſed to be moſt affected by ſuch a proceeding, have been loudeſt in the demand: and yet, from a languor I perceive in certain parts of the Houſe, whoſe ſpirit can alone rouſe this aſſembly, and from certain whiſpers that have gone abroad, I believe this great national queſtion, under certain compromiſes and coalitions, will be ſlurred over like many other ſubjects, regardleſs of the honour of the nation, and the cries of human nature.

An Honourable Gentleman * on the other ſide has told you, there are no evils exiſting in the government of Bengal; that cities are increaſing to double their ſize, inhabitants multiplying, and new improvements in land every where throughout the provinces; and this he has ſtated in contradiction to a paragraph from a reſpectable author, Colonel Dow, who tells you, that five millions of people have been deſtroyed, or fled from the country. The Honourable member has ſaid, "he formerly knew Col. Dow, and that he believed him to be a man of honour; but pique and reſentment for the diſappointments which he ſuffered, in conſequence of his part in the aſſociation of 1766, had induced him to exaggerate circumſtances, and place every thing in an unfavourable light."

I have the pleaſure of knowing Col. Dow in a very intimate degree at this moment: I too believe him to be a man of ſtrict honour, and all the world will allow he is a man of extraordinary diſquiſitive powers. As this very paſſage exceeded all the accounts of diſtreſs which I had heard concerning the country, I aſked the Colonel reſpecting it. He allowed there was ſome ambiguity in the expreſſion as to the time when his calculation begun and ended: but that he meant to include all the miſeries of the famine to the laſt diſpatches; and in this ſenſe he was capable of ſhewing ſufficient foundation for the facts he had aſſerted. But let Col. Dow's or the Honourable Gentleman's account be true, it behoves the legiſlature to inquire; nor can we ever be vindicated in ſhutting our doors againſt regular information, after ſuch aſſertions from an officer of high rank and character, in a work to which he has affixed his name, and dedicated to his ſovereign.

A Noble Lord † on this ſide the Houſe has admitted ſuch miſeries and miſmanagement in the affairs of Bengal ſince he left that country, that every man of forethought muſt be alarmed with the approach of ſudden bankruptcy. His Lordſhip has indeed imputed them to other cauſes, but ſtill the grievances exiſt; and whether in the directors at home, or the contractors abroad, it is equally our duty to inquire.

The Noble Lord has made a great impreſſion on the Houſe, by entering into a long refutation of charges that had been ſent him by the court of directors, the mutilated titles of which charges he has barely read. As I have had an opportunity of ſeeing thoſe charges as well as the Noble Lord, and as the anſwers he has given to them, after all poſſible preparation, rather confirm than leſſen my idea of his guilt, I beg leave to be indulged in a few words by way of reply to each.

The Noble Lord ſets out with two articles which have been tranſmitted to him from the court of directors, as the firſt and ſecond heads of charges exhibited againſt him. It is needleſs for his Lordſhip to furniſh me with inſtances of the clumſy manner in which buſineſs is tranſacted at the Eaſt-India houſe: and yet there is ſomething ſo very extraordinary in this, that I am apt to impute it to deſign rather than ignorance. His

* Mr Rumbold.

† Lord Clive.

Lordſhip plumes himſelf extremely in refuting thoſe charges. As to the firſt, ſays he, "I never dealt in cotton in all my life, I know no more of cotton than the Pope of Rome; nor indeed, properly ſpeaking, did I ever trade. My fortune was obtained at the head of an army. Reſpecting the ſecond, I did ſend to diſtant provinces to purchaſe diamonds, for the purpoſe of remitting my jaghire to England, there being no other lawful way of remitting my money at that time, as the company's caſh was then full: but after regularly paying the duties for the diamonds here in England, I loſt three per cent. by the adventure." Now really it is ſufficient to aſtoniſh the Houſe, and occaſion their giving very little attention to any other charges, when the firſt and ſecond are ſo eaſily anſwered. But I hope the wonder will be removed, and their attention recalled, when I acquaint them, there are no ſuch articles ſtated as charges againſt his Lordſhip. The charge of monopolizing cotton, and forcing it on the Zemindars, is expreſsly confined to the Council, excepting ſome particular members. The monopoly of diamonds is not ſtated as a charge, but as a fact to illuſtrate another point.

I come now to the real articles of charge, and I ſubmit to the recollection of the Houſe, how far his Lordſhip has anſwered them to the underſtanding of any man of ſenſe. The firſt article of charge, as his Lordſhip has ſtated them, is monopolizing of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, contrary to the repeated orders of the court of directors, and in contradiction to his ſolemn engagements in that behalf. Has not his Lordſhip eſtabliſhed a monopoly of thoſe articles in the moſt rigid degree? Has he not allowed he held 5/56th ſhares? Has he not pretended to amuſe you with calculations of the moſt cruel and fallacious kind, ſtating how much he extracted from each individual on the article of ſalt, without including the other commodities? Has he not told you, thoſe men, wearing few cloaths, and having only mean habitations, and not being addicted to the uſe of ſpirituous liquors, were well able to pay the 2 s. 3 d. demanded, and therefore fit inſtruments to be squeezed in his engines of oppreſſion. What man who has conſidered the ſubject of taxation, can be ſo ignorant as not to know, that every ſpecies of general extortion or oppreſſion may be vindicated by ſuch arguments? Can any man ſay, after duties and enhanced prices are long laid on any commodity, that the increaſed extortion falls equally on every member of the community, much leſs on the firſt eſtabliſhment of ſuch impoſitions? But the mere ſum taken is not the evil, as might be ſhown by the difference of taxation in free and arbitrary countries. It is the wicked principle of ſuch regulations, contrary to the law of nature, that deſtroys human induſtry, checks the incitements to labour, and produces famine and all other evil conſequences that have followed in Bengal. But here too I muſt remark, that the title of this article of charge, as delivered to the court of directors reſpecting many other gentlemen as well as his Lordſhip, is not for monopolizing ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, which produced the late famine; but for monopolizing ſalt, beetle-nut, tobacco, and *other commodities*, which produced the late famine. His Lordſhip has acknowledged, the effects of his regulation was that of ſetting thouſands and thouſands of merchants adrift who uſe to deal in thoſe commodities. Can there be ſo complete a confeſſion of the horrid conſequences of his regulation before a ſenſible body of men? Thouſands and thouſands of merchants thrown looſe in any community will convulſe the ſtate to the very centre. "But," ſays his Lordſhip, "I acknowledge, the firſt regulations on the inſtitution of this monopoly, which were drawn by Mr Sumner in my abſence, were defective, and I received many complaints up the country againſt them; but on the next year I corrected all theſe miſtakes, and laid on fifty per cent. additional duty, directing the commodities to be ſold at the different places at diſtinct prices; and if it had not been for the frauds practiſed by the Banyans, and the diſobedience of orders in the agents for the committee, there could have been no complaints." Without taking notice, that his Lordſhip had no authority for laying on any duties whatſoever, who does not ſee, that ſuch a ridiculous ſcheme of fixing ſtated prices on the neceſſaries of life throughout the provinces, without its being poſſible at all times to proportion the quantity and demand, was liable to every ſpecies of impoſition that followed? and nothing leſs than a total ignorance of the ſubject could make a man complain of the conſequences.

His Lordſhip has gone into a digreſſion

to miſlead the Houſe on the manner in which this trade was formerly carried on, to vindicate himſelf for impoſing ſuch high duties: and this is a miſtake I have met with from many ſenſible men in diſcourſing concerning Eaſt-India affairs.—The revenues of the ſtate are not collected in India, by duties and commodities, as in Europe. The amount of the higheſt duties that were ever collected on ſalt in Bengal, was 72,000 l. a-year; the general medium was 40,000 l. The reſt were exactions at the different Chokeys. Cogee Wazeed farmed the whole at 32,000 l. a-year, in the time of Ally Verde Cawn; and a worthy Governor, who is ſince loſt, confeſſed to me in a public aſſembly, that the diſputes with Coſſim Ally Cawn on theſe articles were fairly contentions for authority, and not of pecuniary conſideration. The aſſumed diſtinction of exports and imports, in explaining the firmaund, are ridiculous in themſelves, and never could be applicable to ſalt, even according to that aſſumed diſtinction, ſince ſalt has ever been both an export and import.

And therefore there is not the leaſt argument to be drawn from thoſe facts which can vindicate his Lordſhip's regulations.

We come now to the contumacious diſobedience of orders.—His Lordſhip tells us of the extreme ignorance of the court of directors, in excuſe for diſregarding their poſitive commands, which had been formerly laid before the legiſlature.

With regard to the wiſdom of the court of directors, I will not enter into a diſpute with his Lordſhip on that article at preſent, but leave thoſe gentlemen to vindicate themſelves. However, I muſt obſerve, whether ignorant or intelligent, they were his ſuperiors, whom he was bound to obey by every tie of honour and duty; and where ſo much profit accrued by a contrary conduct, men will be apt to impute his diſobedience to other motives. I muſt further remark, the orders of 1766, which were ſo peremptory on this head, and ſeem to give ſo much offence to his Lordſhip, as leaving him no defence, except in the ignorance of his maſters, were all wrote by one whom he always treated as his moſt intimate friend, and ſigned by others whom I cannot call his friends indeed, but his moſt ſervile tools in office. If this plea of the ignorance of the directors is to be admitted as an excuſe for ſuch wilful diſobedience of their orders, what eſtabliſhment can be ſecure?

How is it poſſible to deny the ſame juſtification to every other perſon, or to puniſh any other man for this offence, upon which the welfare of ſo many millions depend? But this was not a common diſobedience of orders on a ſingle point, liable to be mooted; but a pertinacious, intereſted reſiſtance, from year to year, under ſolemn deeds and large penalties. His Lordſhip has ſtated, in his farewell-letter to Mr Verelſt, (which, by the by, I think the moſt arbitrary compoſition that ever was read in a free aſſembly), that diſobedience to orders he conſiders as the greateſt legal crime. Will then his Lordſhip apply the law he left to others, for a moment, to himſelf? or is he to be exempted from thoſe rules by which the reſt of mankind are to be judged? His Lordſhip has alledged, that many of the extracts of the letters referred to in the charges againſt him, prohibiting the trade in ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco, were wrote with a reference to other men; but he forgets to mention, that the letter of the 19th of February 1765, which was wrote nine months after he left England, confirms all thoſe orders of prohibition, and has theſe remarkable words: "Whatever government may be eſtabliſhed, or whatever unforeſeen occurrences may ariſe, it is our reſolution to prohibit, and we do abſolutely forbid this trade of ſalt, beetle-nut, and tobacco. And moreover, we ſhall deem every European concerned therein, directly or indirectly, guilty of a breach of his covenants."—And it is further to be remembered, that this very letter was received, and was the occaſion of the extraordinary deed of diſobedience which has made ſo much noiſe in the world.

Whatever excuſes may be made, the wilful intereſted diſobedience of orders is clear.

The next point to be conſidered, is the profits derived from this conduct. His Lordſhip does not deny the large ſums he acquired; but he tells you of a Mr Maſkeline, who had gone through all ſtations of life with him—through antres vaſt, and deſerts wild,—to whom he gave 13,000 l.; to Mr Streachy (whoſe merit I am glad to acknowledge, as praiſed by all parties) 15,000 l.; to Mr Ingham 13,000 l.; to Mr Philpot, his

footman, 2000l. beſides 2000l. which he formerly received as ſtated in an account of a ſimilar nature to this, on the Company's books. Now, really, I can hardly conceive a plainer confeſſion of the fact charged. His Lordſhip acknowledges the receipt of the money, contrary to his engagements, and in defiance of public orders; but he inſiſts, that having ſubſequently diſtributed it among his friends and ſervants, that he has been guilty of no breach of his promiſe or his duty. — As this is a new ſpecies of defence, I ſhall be glad to hear the reception it meets with from the public. It would be a ſtrange plea in a court of juſtice! Beſides, how is it poſſible to detect any man with ſuch a powerful ſcreen? For, ſuppoſe we ſhould prove 50,000l. more to-morrow, it is only making another transfer, and all is clear; for it muſt be remembered, as I ſaid before, there is one account balanced, of a ſimilar nature to this, on the Company's records already; and his Lordſhip acknowledges the ſubſequent 48,000l. had never been ſtated to the directors. — Upon the whole, it is clear his Lordſhip has acknowledged the eſtabliſhing the ſevereſt monopolies on the neceſſaries of life, and the money he received by it. There can be few members who require a diſſertation to explain the dangerous conſequences of a monopoly; or who will deign to inquire in what proportion he diſtributed the profit among his friends and dependents.

The next charge his Lordſhip ſtands accuſed of, is the introducing a fraudulent coinage. The anſwer he makes to this is ſhort: "I did eſtabliſh a new gold currency, but I know nothing of the mixture of metals. However, I am ready to declare before God, as I now do at this moment, that I reaped not a ſhilling profit by it." Taking this defence as his Lordſhip has ſtated it, though I always underſtood he had a certain per centage on all coinage, what does the whole amount to? A ſtrange confeſſion for a man at the head of an empire held by a trading company: not leſs than if a perſon ſhould declare, I know nothing of anatomy, and yet I am ready and willing, at any time you pleaſe, to open a principal artery. If the patient ſhould die under ſuch an operation, could the doctor ſtand wholly acquitted? Do not all men know, that the purity of coin is a principal conſideration in government, and that it is of the moſt dangerous conſequences tampering with it by any fraudulent mixtures?

Will the Noble Lord allędge, that the private principles of the coinage did not admit of eight per cent. allay above the current ſtandard? Will he deny, that in the progreſs of the frauds, it was coined with thirty per cent. allay? Will he deny, that in two years from its eſtabliſhment, the once-flouriſhing kingdom of Bengal could not exchange one hundred gold mhors at the Preſidency? Will he deny, that the Company loſt 300,000l. by the project? I ſhall believe, from his Lordſhip's word, that he made no profit of the great opportunity that occurred, but that he left this likewiſe to his friends; and yet I can hardly admit, after ſuch recent inſtances of his ability, that he is ſo entirely ignorant of the mixture of metals as his modeſty would incline the Houſe to believe.

The laſt article of accuſation which his Lordſhip has touched upon, is peculation of revenues, or the taking of one and an eighth per cent. from the revenues, eſtimated at 3,000,000l. His Lordſhip has introduced his reaſons for this appropriation, by a long-winded minute he has read to the Houſe, ſtating the juſtice, prudence, moderation, &c. &c. with a long catalogue of all the other virtues which ought to adorn an Eaſt-India Governor. To a man of ſenſe, the bare ſtating of ſuch a commonplace jingle of words, would denounce to his mind, that ſomething iniquitous was to follow. The ways of truth are ſimple and pure; the paths of fraud are intricate and perplexed. Suppoſe I was to ſtate to the Houſe a tranſlation of the *Cadi* or Judge's commiſſion, as found in Mr Dow's book, to prove that oppreſſions had never prevailed in Hindoſtan.

Men of reflection know what a feeble barrier a combination of ſyllables are againſt the luſt of rapine. We muſt come to the facts. Did not Lord Clive declare in his letter to the court of directors of the 28th of April 1764, that he thought the two and a half per cent. which had been granted to Mr Vanſittart on the ſmall extent of territory we then poſſeſſed, was too great a burthen on the Company's eſtate? By his own conſent, and in conſequence of confirming the jaghire, was not his ſalary fixed at 6000l. a-year in return

return for all his ſervices civil and military; the Company agreeing to defray all his neceſſary expences? — Does not the ſame letter of the 4th of June add, as a farther ſecurity for the Company, "This, together with one per cent. commiſſion, which he is intitled to as Preſident, out of the two and a half per cent. coinage-duty, to be in full conſideration of all his ſervices civil and military; conſequently his Lordſhip is to have no commiſſion out of the revenues from any of our territorial acquiſitions whatſoever?"

Under what pretence then could his Lordſhip claim one and an eighth, equal to 40,000l. from the revenues? He ſays, in conſideration of giving up trade, which he now declares he never followed; and yet I deſire to know, after acknowledging that deed ſtated in Mr Bolts's book, under what name he comprehends his merchandiſe with Mr Sykes and Gen. Carnac. But ſuppoſing he had actually dealt in commerce, inſtead of making his bargains at the head of an army, is it to be ſuppoſed he would have lanched into freſh concerns within ſix months of his departure? — But (ſays his Lordſhip, ſenſible of the tender part of this argument) the court of directors have confirmed it to me, and ſo I ſhall paſs it over. But I deny, by the moſt forced conſtruction or fulſome compliments, that the court of directors can or have confirmed it to him. Beſides, his Lordſhip has carefully concealed from the Houſe the ſix months of the one and an eighth per cent. on the revenues which he drew after leaving the Eaſt Indies, in prejudice of that eaſy, ſilly, humane, ſimple fellow he left behind. — In this I mean no reflection on the gentleman myſelf; I ſtate it merely as his Lordſhip has repreſented that Honourable Gentleman to the Houſe, in ſumming up the cauſe of all his harmonious plans miſgiving.

I have now gone through the exculpation his Lordſhip was pleaſed to deliver to the Houſe, againſt charges of which they are ready to acquit him, without ever ſeeing or hearing the particulars of accuſation. — In my opinion, his arguments ſtand fully refuted, though I wiſh that taſk had fallen to the ſhare of ſome abler advocate.

I will ſum up the whole, by requeſting of every member of the Houſe to conſider, with his hand on his heart, what are the various ſubjects of complaint againſt the different ſervants of the Eaſt India company. — Is it receiving preſents from Indian princes? Has any man received them to ſuch an extent as his Lordſhip — Is it for remitting by foreign companies? Has any man remitted ſuch enormous ſums by theſe channels? — Is it for monopolizing the neceſſaries of life, or diſobedience of orders? Did ever any Governor exceed him in thoſe, even to enter into a penalty-bond to continue thoſe deſtructive inſtitutions, notwithſtanding any orders from the court of directors to the contrary? — Is it for diſmiſſing law-ſuits by general courts? Was there ever a law-ſuit of ſuch magnitude as his own diſmiſſed by a general court? — And here I cannot help mentioning my ſurpriſe at the diſlike his Lordſhip has expreſſed againſt general courts. How long has this diſguſt come upon him? Has he no more uſe for thoſe aſſemblies? To what does the whole of his arguments tend? An uncontrouled direction at home, and an abſolute government abroad, which are heard with ſuch applauſe by a Britiſh parliament.

After ſtating particulars, his Lordſhip deſcends to general arguments, which is always the ſign of a bad cauſe. To give the Houſe an impreſſion of his unbounded generoſity, as if his former diſtributions to his ſervants were not ſufficient, he tells you, that Meer Jaffier, who had ſuch affection for his Lordſhip, that *fleſh and blood* could not withſtand them, left to his Lordſhip by WILL, in the preſence of his wife, and ſon, and miniſter, 70,000l. This ſum, his Lordſhip ſays, he might have kept, and he had the opinion of the ableſt lawyer in the kingdom, that the property was duly his; but inſtead of availing himſelf of ſuch an advantage, he *prevailed* on the Nabob to add 30,000l. more, with which he hath ſince eſtabliſhed a fund as a perpetual monument of his bounty to thoſe officers and ſoldiers, at the riſk of whoſe lives he had made ſo great a fortune. Is it to be ſuppoſed, ſays his Lordſhip, that a man who could eſtabliſh ſuch uncommon marks of his bounty, could ſtoop to the crimes charged againſt him? But here again, to judge properly on the ſubject, we muſt attend a little to the detail of facts. Meer Jaffier died four months before his Lordſhip arrived at Calcutta; ſeveral months more were elapſed before a man in the ſettlement ever heard a

word

word of this will; at length Nuncumar, the late miniſter, was impriſoned, and ſoon after he was delivered of this wonderful ſecret, which after a proper repetition of releaſements and confinements was thoroughly matured. I have examined into this matter in another place in a much more critical and exact way than I now do, and it never could hold a ſemblance of probability. I am perfectly ſatisfied the artful miniſter impoſed on his Lordſhip, for who can withſtand the various artifices of an Eaſtern genius, as he has deſcribed their political gallantry? But be that as it may, I now undertake to bring ten, or at leaſt five men to the bar, who were intimately connected with all the affairs of the Durbar for many months after Meer Jaffier's death, who will declare, they never heard a word of this will till long after his Lordſhip's arrival; and I will defy his Lordſhip, with all his wealth, power, influence, and friends, to bring one gentleman who will declare, he had ever heard a word of the matter before his Lordſhip's arrival. However, what puts an end to this claim of generoſity, is, that his Lordſhip was under covenants not to accept of any preſents exceeding 4000 rupees.

I will now trouble the Houſe with my idea of the preſent propoſed bill. — In the ſhape I formerly ſaw it, it appeared to me worſe than none. The Britiſh legiſlature ſhould not move in the affairs of Aſia, unleſs ſhe acts with dignity and effect. The eye of the world is upon her, and diſgrace muſt follow any inſignificant, much more any falſe ſtep. The preſent bill leaves that double engine of tyranny, the government of the Nabob, forcible, and entire in all its parts. It gives the natives the power of ſuing Britiſh ſubjects in the new-eſtabliſhed courts, but it leaves the Britiſh ſubjects without a remedy againſt the frauds or oppreſſions of the natives, except through the interpoſition of the Governor and Council, with their creature the Nabob. To be liable to be ſued, in every other government on earth, implies a power of being able to ſue in turn; but this bill of the Eaſt-India company, is to open new maxims of juriſprudence. The great object with a diſcerning mind is, to eſtabliſh one certain ſyſtem of redreſſing injuries throughout that extenſive country; and, particularly, to guard, that no man can be ſafe, from the nature of your ſyſtem, in the commiſſion of wrongs. This once eſtabliſhed, preſents will ceaſe; for no man gives away his money without a view to undúe preference. — Cut off the means of accompliſhing the pernicious end, and the cuſtom founded upon it drops of courſe. So in monopolies: lay your markets free and open, (which you are well enabled to do, as drawing your revenues immediately from land, without duties of exciſe or cuſtoms), and the evil is corrected. By the preſent bill, the ſyſtem of tyranny exerciſed through the Nabob and his miniſters, ſtands in ſome meaſure confirmed by law, if after being under the view of the legiſlature, no notice is taken of it ſo as to correct the evil. I had the Honour of preſenting to this Houſe a petition from a poor oppreſſed Armenian merchant [133.], who ſuffered long impriſonment without ever being able as yet to know the crime of which he is accuſed. It is true, on finding his caſe was laid before the Houſe, the framers of this bill have in ſome meaſure comprehended his ſect within the remedies of their law, by inſerting the word *Chriſtian*. But it was not becauſe he was a Chriſtian that I preſented his petition, but becauſe he was a human being and fellow-creature, and becauſe his caſe brought the ſituation of all the inhabitants of Bengal fairly before the Houſe. Nor can the gentlemen who patronize this bill ſhew me one reaſon for inſerting the word *Chriſtian* that does not equally apply for putting in the words *Muſſulman* and *Gentoo*. Suppoſe, after the preſent law, the Governor is inclined to oppreſs one, ten, or a thouſand of the inhabitants of Bengal, he whiſpers his wiſh to the Nabob; the men are ſent to priſon. They lie there for life, or are releaſed after proper payments. Have they any remedy for releaſement when impriſoned, or damages when ſet free? If you will keep up this monſtrous abſurdity, it were better to enlarge the powers of the Nabob, and make him in ſome degree an efficient magiſtrate like Mahomed Ally at Madras. My opinion has never altered on this ſubject. I am clear we hold thoſe lands by conqueſt. I think the conqueſt was lawfully made by the Company and a ſmall part of the King's forces in conjunction. I deny that conqueſt by a ſubject lawfully made, veſts the property in the ſtate, though I maintain it conveys the ſovereignty. Strictly ſpeaking, after paying

paying the Eaſt-India company for their expences, and the riſks they run, on an ample ſcale, the reſidue ſhould belong to the ſtate: but I ſee no poſſibility of a diviſion, and I ſee great dread of the influence which the crown might acquire by an improper arrangement. My mind therefore is come to this determination, that the crown, under certain conditions, ſhould grant the lands to the Eaſt-India company, as was done in the caſes of New England, and ſeveral other of our chartered colonies. The mode is eaſy, as the words impowering conqueſt, and promiſing all future reaſonable grants, in each of the charters are literally the ſame. For this information, as caſes in point to ſettle the minds of men who wiſh to act by precedent, I am obliged to a worthy member in my eye, who has made the conſtitution of the colonies his particular ſtudy. The ſituation of Philadelphia, the moſt perfect goverment under the King, fully illuſtrates and vindicates my idea. The Eaſt-India company ſhould appoint, and the King approve of the Governor. The diſtribution of juſtice ſhould flow from the throne. The ſtory of the bloody ſword does not frighten me *. Who does not know, that the firſt ſtep towards the improvement of civil ſociety, is the taking the power of puniſhment from the hands of the injured? The commander in chief of the troops ſhould be named by the Company, and appointed by the King: all the leſſer officers ſhould be in the Company. A legiſlative authority ſhould be eſtabliſhed on the ſpot; without this we are like a ſhip deprived of her rudder. The proper checks and controul on that body I do not now enumerate; they muſt be plain and ſimple at the beginning. If theſe outlines were once adjuſted, the ſubſequent taſk might be ſoon accompliſhed; nor ſhould this matter appear ſo difficult as to induce the miniſter of a great country to ſit quiet in the moſt important national queſtion that ever came before parliament, and permit the Houſe to proceed in the dark, driving like a ſhip at the mercy of wind and wave. Some men have alledged, as an objection againſt aſſuming the ſovereign authority of that country, That foreign nations would object. Does any man believe, that foreign nations permit us virtually to hold thoſe territories under the magic word *Dowannee?* Can it be ſuppoſed, they are not equally ſenſible of the impoſition as ourſelves? or will it be believed, they would not be much better contented to hold their different privileges under the confirmation of a Britiſh legiſlature, than of a cipher of a Nabob, directed by a Governor and Committee whom they can never trace? If I am favoured with the papers I have aſked for, I ſhall prove thoſe aſſertions from their own words, and ſhew we are much more likely to engender diſputes under the preſent ſyſtem. If, in making our regulations, we are jealous of ſupporting the privilege of foreigners, we are wrong. They are neceſſary for the proſperity of our India trade at home and abroad, and we ought to convince them of our reſolutions in this reſpect by liberal determinations in their behalf, for I dread their edicts more than their army.

The Noble Lord has imputed all the misfortunes of the Eaſt-India company abroad to a filly ſucceſſor, and the increaſe of the military eſtabliſhment. He is the beſt judge concerning thoſe evils which flowed from his ſucceſſor. As to the increaſed military eſtabliſhment, I have often wrote, and often ſpoke againſt it, as againſt moſt of the diſburſements of the Eaſt-India company, which are all calculated on a geometrical ſcale of extravagance in proportion to that of any other community. But who was the propoſer of that enormous burthen? The Noble Lord himſelf. For the directors, though dependent on his breath, rather curtailed than extended his plans. He has read to you the ſtate of the military expences of the years his Lordſhip ſerved in Bengal, and compared them with thoſe of his ſucceſſors; but neither the effects of the military eſtabliſhment, or his diſtant connections, by ill-judged treaties, could be felt till the year he left the country; nay, not fully till the arrival of the troop of Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels, and Majors, which he ſent from Europe. His Lordſhip imputes the multiplied evils that have exiſted in Bengal to temporary party-cauſes: I impute them to radical defects in the ſyſtem he had eſtabliſhed, which I will not honour with the name of *government*, but that of a monſtrous heap of partial, arbitrary, political inconſiſtencies, that were neceſſarily doomed to tumble in the ſhort period they did, and to produce all the complicated miſeries, miſchiefs, and oppreſſions which have enſued.

The Noble Lord has told the Houſe,

of

* This alludes to a caſe ſtated by Mr Rumbold.

of the mighty things he did in his laſt trip to India: but he has carefully avoided condeſcending on any one particular, except that of his arbitrary proceedings againſt two men who had totally eclipſed his glory, in order to make room for his low dependents. Firſt, by deſtroying all government, and then by eſtabliſhing a ſyſtem of uncontrouled fraud and rapine. — Does the Noble Lord claim the merit of adding the kingdoms of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſſa, to the Britiſh empire? and will the Houſe give it to him who directed the pens of captive princes, or to thoſe who, by unwearied toils, and multiplied dangers, took the ſwords from their hands? For I aver it as a fact, that the ſurrender of Suja Dowla, which reduced that part of the world to our obedience, and the arrival of Lord Clive at Calcutta, were ſo near in point of time, that a courier could hardly have rod acroſs the country to have given inteligence of the laſt circumſtance before the firſt great event had happened.

There is only one other circumſtance in the Noble Lord's ſpeech which I can recollect from my notes as remaining unanſwered. In the quantity of terrors he has hung over our heads, ten thouſand French are placed at the iſland of Mauritius, and from thence removed to Madagaſcar, from whence the long-exploded topic of univerſal monarchy is again deduced. Now I'll tell the Noble Lord my opinion on this ſubject in contradiction to his, and leave the Houſe to judge between us. If the French ſhould acquire our poſſeſſions in India, they could never hold them without poſſeſſing a ſuperiority at ſea. Theſe countries belong naturally to Great Britain, who has a fleet to connect them with the principal dominion. France might convulſe our credit, and injure us materially by a ſtroke in the Eaſt Indies; and I am perſuaded that ſuch was her intention, and that ſhe had proceeded ſo far that ſhe does not now know whether to draw back or go on. Before our fleet went there, our dominions in the Eaſt certainly lay expoſed in a manner that no wiſe man can vindicate. Since adminiſtration have ſenſibly ſent a ſquadron into thoſe ſeas, and are now ſo wiſely ſending a reinforcement, I am in no dread of the French, if they do not act before our reinforcement arrives. I think, myſelf, they have loſt their time; at any rate Bengal is not their firſt object. But if they once come to move to Madagaſcar, I am ſure they are undone. Any officer who knows how European ſoldiers moulder away in thoſe climates, will have little dread from 10,000 men, after the draughts by death and diſeaſe, in the courſe of three or four years, are duly ſatisfied; but in caſe they go to a new ſettlement, deſtitute of all the accommodations from buildings and civil ſociety, and expoſed to the corrupted air of rank vegetation, I leave any one to judge, who has had experience in the ſettling colonies, what will be their fate in a few years.

Upon the whole, I ſhall vote againſt the motion, with a view of eſtabliſhing an inquiry into the affairs of the Britiſh empire in Aſia.

SIR, *London, April* 25.

AS it is expected that the kingdom of Tanjore will ſpeedily become an acceſſion to the extenſive dominions of that mighty warlike power the Eaſt-India company; and that the news of this freſh conqueſt (the value of which by the by is much over-rated) will greatly advance the price of her ſtock; perhaps the curioſity of your readers may be pleaſed with ſome little account of this devoted king and his country; as alſo of the true cauſes of this war; together with the conſequences that will reſult therefrom to the ſeveral parties concerned therein.

Tanjore is a ſmall ſtate, bounded on the North by the dominions of the Company's Nabob of Arcot, and on the Eaſt by the ſea; from which it ſtretches about 100 miles inland; its breadth on the ſea-coaſt is about 90 miles: and in that ſpace the Engliſh, Dutch, French, and Danes, have each of them a ſettlement; but as it narrows in ſome places to 30 miles, its mean breadth may be about 60 miles.

The King of Tanjore hath ever been a firm and valuable ally to the Engliſh. For, during that whole war, which is commonly called Dupleix's, he ſtrenuouſly ſupported the Engliſh, and their Nabob Mahommed Ally, againſt the French and their Nabob: and in the laſt war with France he may be ſaid to have ſaved Madraſs, and in that all the Britiſh poſſeſſions in India; for immediately after the capture of Fort St David's [xxi. 145.], he drew on himſelf the whole force of the French, by refuſing

to ſupply Lally with money and troops, which were to have been employed againſt Madraſs; and by thus diverting the enemy for ſome months, he gained time for the Engliſh to prepare their defence in ſuch a manner as afterwards baffled the efforts of Lally: whereas had he complied with the requiſition of the French, Lally would have marched directly from St David's againſt Madraſs; which he might have entered at that time without reſiſtance; ſeeing that the fortifications were unfiniſhed, particularly the north front, being that which was afterwards attacked, and the gateways in the curtains were open, the garriſon was altogether inſufficient, and diſpirited by the ſudden ſurrender of St David's; and in point of proviſions and neceſſaries, the place was utterly unprovided for a ſiege. Moreover the King of Tanjore aſſiſted the Engliſh during the ſiege with a body of his cavalry.

This is the prince whom the government of Madraſs hath now attacked, on the very ſame pretext as the French uſed for attacking him under Lally; namely, ſome obſolete claim of tribute due to the Company's Nabob of Arcot. Though even that is but a pretended plea; for the following is the true cauſe of this war: The Governor and Council of Madraſs being aware, that they would be diſmiſſed from their office, on account of a very inſolent anſwer returned by them to a haughty letter received from the Directors, were reſolved to complete their fortunes by a ſudden ſtroke: and as the uſual expedient of theſe governors in ſuch caſes is, to commence a war againſt ſome one neighbouring prince, which affords the immediate opportunity of peculation, and the future proſpect of plunder, the preſent choice happens to fall on the King of Tanjore; for this, amongſt other reaſons, that having long governed his ſmall commercial dominions with great prudence, he was reckoned to be exceeding rich.

Now, ſuppoſing that this war ſhould prove ſucceſsful, (though of that there is no abſolute certainty, the laſt war of this nature having terminated rather ſcurvily), the conſequence will be, that a prince to whom the Engliſh owe great obligations, will be deſpoiled of his dominions, moſt probably of his life; and of his harmleſs ſubjects, one part will be ſlaughtered, and the remainder reduced to miſery and want. The Company muſt perforce ſupply the whole pecuniary expence of this war as it ſhall be charged to her; and this ſhe may reckon as a dead loſs: for as to the immediate plunder of Tanjore, or any future acceſſion of revenue, theſe will fall to the ſhare of her ſervants; and the nation of Britain muſt make good the expence of men ſacrificed on this ſcheme of plunder and peculation, whilſt her character will be ſubjected to a freſh load of odium, accruing from an unjuſt and ungrateful war.

HISTORICUS.

SIR, *London, April 2.*

AMong the many diſtreſsful conſequences which muſt ariſe to the Daniſh nation from the preſent ſtate of the Royal Family there, it is to be feared that a check will be given to the ſpirit of improvement which had begun to diſplay itſelf in their literature and ſciences. We have ſeveral remarkable inſtances of this ſpirit enumerated in a very curious work lately publiſhed, intitled, *Northern Antiquities; or, A deſcription of the manners, cuſtoms, &c. of the ancient Danes, and of our own anceſtors the Saxons.*

Among the many additions made by the tranſlator, and not found in the original French, is the following.

In the preface to that work, the author extols the late King of Denmark, Frederick V. as a great patron of literature, and promoter of knowledge: the editor therefore adds, that it is but juſtice to that monarch to mention a few of the literary undertakings which owe their riſe and eſtabliſhment to his bounty, and love of ſcience. [xxii. 568.]

"I. He inſtituted a ſociety, conſiſting of four or five gentlemen, who have a ſalary of 400l. per ann. aſſigned them, purpoſely for the cultivation of the Daniſh language, and illuſtration of the Icelandic and Northern antiquities. They have in their poſſeſſion a great quantity of manuſcripts relative to the latter; and, among the reſt, the entire Voluſpa. This ſociety has already publiſhed two volumes upon miſcellaneous ſubjects; in which are two diſſertations relative to the Icelandic antiquities.

II. He directed and enabled his Profeſſor of Botany, Dr Oeder, to publiſh that magnificent work, the *Flora Danica*; of which he commanded preſents to be made to all the principal clergy, engaging them to contribute their aſſiſtance towards perfecting an undertaking ſo uſe-

ful and extenſive: And in order to promote the ſame deſign all over Europe, he commanded this work to be printed in the Latin and French, as well as German and Daniſh languages; and to be carried on till it ſhall be found to contain the figures and deſcriptions of all the plants which grow within the limits of the polar circle, and the 53d degree of latitude.

III. He ſent the celebrated miſſion of literati to explore the interior parts of Arabia [xxv. 292.], and to give us a more perfect account of that now almoſt unknown country, which was once the ſeat of learning and ſcience; as alſo to collect whatever reliques could be found of the old Arabian books, hiſtory, &c. Theſe miſſionaries were five in number, viz. Mr Profeſſor De Haven, for Philology and Language; Mr Profeſſor Forſkal, (a diſciple of Linnæus), for Natural Hiſtory; a lieutenant of engineers, Mr Niebuhr, for Geography and Aſtronomy; Dr Cramer, for Medicine; and Mr Paurenfeind, for Drawing, and taking Views, &c. The whole deſign and plan of their voyage may be ſeen in Monſ. Michaelis's *Recueil des queſtions propoſées a une ſociété de ſavans, qui par ordre de ſa Maj. Dan. font le voyage de l' Arabie, &c.* Francf. 1763. 12mo. Of theſe five literati, only one is returned alive out of the Eaſt. Their joint obſervations, however, are in the hands of Mr Niebuhr, the ſurvivor, which he is preparing for the preſs in the German language. As ſome of the travellers died early in their tour, we muſt not expect to find the original plan entirely completed. The work will be found moſt perfect in what relates to Geography and Natural Hiſtory: but though it muſt, from the circumſtances above mentioned, prove ſomewhat defective, the world may nevertheleſs form conſiderable expectations of it; and it will, as we are aſſured, be given to the public very ſhortly."

SIR, *Little Chelſea, May* 14.

I Saw laſt night in your paper, a paragraph, mentioning, that a ſervant-maid had taken arſenick by miſtake on Thurſday, and died on Saturday evening, notwithſtanding *the miſtake was ſoon diſcovered.*

I ſhould think myſelf blameworthy if I did not on this occaſion inform the public, that fallad or olive oil taken warm, and repeated diſcretionally, will infallibly prevent any bad conſequences, if the arſenick has not been taken very long before. It is the true antidote for arſenick, and the bite of a viper: I could therefore wiſh, that no one would neglect making uſe of it as ſoon as it is diſcovered that any perſon has ſwallowed arſenick by miſtake, diſtreſs of circumſtances, or otherwiſe.

Above twenty years ago, and at different times, I publiſhed in different newspapers the efficacy of common oil of olives for the cure of the bite of a viper, and referred to the Philoſophical Tranſactions, N° 443. & 444. [xi. 403. xxi. 639.]. Notwithſtanding this, I have frequently heard ſince, of many perſons dying from the bite of a viper, without any application of the oil. It is great pity that people are ſo inattentive when the life of a fellow-creature is at ſtake. I hope this letter will be however of ſome uſe; and that thoſe who wiſh to aſſiſt occaſionally their brethren in diſtreſs, will note down theſe matters.

Thoſe that have the Philoſophical Tranſactions, I would adviſe to look into thoſe two numbers; but as many may be at a loſs for the bite of a viper, I will repeat here the method of cure.

Let the wound be well rubbed as ſoon as poſſible with warm oil, over a chafing-diſh, repeatedly at different times; and that alone will effectually cure. But if the poiſon has extended too far into the body before the oil has been applied, then the patient muſt *drink* warm oil at different times, always bathing the wound alſo with it, and likewiſe that part of the body where pain may be felt; and this will effectually cure without any other remedies.

With regard to arſenick, I muſt obſerve, that a gentle vomit given juſt after taking it, and then repeatedly drinking very fat mutton broth, will alſo effectually cure it. By this method, Sir Hans Sloane ſaved the life of a young man, who, at his houſe at Chelſea, had drank a quantity of milk into which arſenick had been put to poiſon the rats.

As letters that are anonymous are generally little regarded, I have thought it proper, that the advice herein contained may not on that account be rejected, to put my name to this, and am, &c.

H. DE LA TOUCHE.

LONDON

LONDON GAZETTE, *May* 16. 1772.

Peterſburg, March 27. The commiſſion at Moſcow having, in the laſt year, invented a fumigation-powder, which, from ſeveral *leſſer* experiments, had proved efficacious in preventing the infection of the plague; in order more fully to aſcertain its virtue in that reſpect, it was determined, towards the end of the year, that ten malefactors, under ſentence of death, ſhould, without undergoing any other precautions than the fumigations, be confined three weeks in a lazarette, be laid upon the beds, and dreſſed in the cloaths, which had been uſed by perſons ſick, dying, and even dead, of the plague, in the hoſpital. The experiment was accordingly tried; and none of the ten malefactors were then infected, or have been ſince ill. The fumigation-powder is prepared as follows.

RECEIPT for making the Powder of Fumigation, to prevent the infection of the Plague, invented by the commiſſion at Moſcow in the year 1771.

Powder of the firſt ſtrength.

Take leaves of juniper, juniper-berries pounded, ears of wheat, guaiacum wood pounded, of each ſix pounds; common ſaltpetre pounded, eight pounds; ſulphur pounded, ſix pounds; Smyrna tar, or myrrh, two pounds: mix all the above ingredients together, which will produce a pood of the Powder of Fumigation of the firſt ſtrength.

N. B. A pood is forty pounds Ruſſian, which are equal to thirty-five pounds and an half, or thirty-ſix pounds, Engliſh Avoirdupois.

Powder of the ſecond ſtrength.

Take ſouthernwood cut into ſmall pieces, five pounds; leaves of juniper cut into ſmall pieces, four pounds; juniper-berries pounded, three pounds; common ſaltpetre pounded, four pounds; ſulphur pounded, two pounds and an half; Smyrna tar, or myrrh, one pound and an half: mix the above together, which will produce half a pood of the Powder of Fumigation of the ſecond ſtrength.

Odoriferous Powder.

Take the root called *kelwur*, cut into ſmall pieces, three pounds; frankincenſe pounded groſsly, one pound; ſtorax pounded, and roſe-flowers, half a pound; yellow amber pounded, one pound; Smyrna tar, or myrrh, one pound; common ſaltpetre pounded, one pound and an half; ſulphur, a quarter of a pound: mix all the above together, which will produce nine pounds and three quarters of the Odoriferous Powder.

Remark on the Powder of Fumigation.

If guaiacum cannot be had, the cones of pines or firs may be uſed in its ſtead; likewiſe the common tar of pines and firs may be uſed inſtead of the Smyrna tar, or myrrh; and mugwort may ſupply the place of ſouthernwood.

An abſtract of the act 12° *Geo. III. cap.* 11. *for the better regulating the future marriages of the Royal Family.*

[There ſeems now to be reaſon to doubt, if what was formerly publiſhed [139.] was an authentic copy of the bill. This abſtract is made from the act.]

Preamble. MOſt Gracious Sovereign, Whereas your Majeſty, from your paternal affection to your own family, and from your royal concern for the future welfare of your people, and the honour and dignity of your crown, was graciouſly pleaſed to recommend to your parliament, to take into their ſerious conſideration, whether it might not be wiſe and expedient to ſupply the defect of the laws now in being, and by ſome new proviſion more effectually to guard the deſcendents of his late Majeſty K. George II. (other than the iſſue of Princeſſes who have married, or may hereafter marry, into foreign families) from marrying without the approbation of your Majeſty, your heirs, or ſucceſſors, firſt had and obtained; we have taken this weighty matter into our ſerious conſideration; and being ſenſible, that marriages in the Royal Family are of the higheſt importance to the ſtate, and that therefore the Kings of this realm have ever been intruſted with the care and approbation thereof; and being thoroughly convinced of the wiſdom and expediency of what your Majeſty has thought fit to recommend upon this occaſion; we do humbly beſeech your Majeſty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted, &c.

§ 1. No deſcendent of the body of his late Majeſty K. George II. male or female, (other than the iſſue of Princeſſes who have married, or may hereafter

marry, into foreign families), ſhall be capable of contracting matrimony, without the previous conſent of his Majeſty, his heirs, or ſucceſſors, ſignified under the great ſeal, and declared in council, (which conſent, to preſerve the memory thereof, is hereby directed to be ſet out in the licence and regiſter of marriage, and to be entered in the books of the privy council; and every marriage, or matrimonial contract, of any ſuch deſcendent, without ſuch conſent firſt had and obtained, ſhall be null and void.

2. Provided, That in caſe any ſuch deſcendent of the body of his late Majeſty K. George II. being above the age of twenty-five years, ſhall perſiſt in his or her reſolution to contract a marriage, diſapproved of, or diſſented from, by the King, his heirs, or ſucceſſors, that then ſuch deſcendent, upon giving notice to the King's privy council, which notice is hereby directed to be entered in the books thereof, may, at any time, from the expiration of twelve calendar months after ſuch notice given to the privy council as aforeſaid, contract ſuch marriage; and his or her marriage with the perſon before propoſed and rejected, may be duly ſolemnized, without the previous conſent of his Majeſty, his heirs, or ſucceſſors; and ſuch marriage ſhall be good, as if this act had never been made, unleſs both Houſes of Parliament ſhall, before the expiration of the ſaid twelve months, expreſly declare their diſapprobation of ſuch intended marriage.

3. Enacted, That every perſon who ſhall knowingly or wilfully preſume to ſolemnize, or to aſſiſt, or to be preſent at the celebration of any marriage with any ſuch deſcendent, or at his or her making any matrimonial contract, without ſuch conſent as aforeſaid firſt had and obtained, except in the caſe above mentioned, ſhall, being duly convicted thereof, incur and ſuffer the pains and penalties ordained and provided by the ſtatute of proviſion and premunire made in the 16th year of the reign of Richard II.

A NEW CORN-BILL.

AS the news-papers are become the common conveyance of all information to the people, and as the wrong information is moſt likely to be made, if the true one is with-held, it may not be improper to give our readers the following ſhort account of the bill, moved and brought in by Governor Pownall, for regulating the importation and exportation of corn.

This gentleman ſtated his plan, as eſtabliſhing permanent and known regulations, fixed by law, and not left to caprice or will, which ſhould open and ſhut the ports for exportation and importation, according to the real defect or ſurplus of bread-corn. He explained this as forming a dam, which ſhould keep up the ſupply at ſuch a height, as ſhould be always adequate, and not more than adequate, to the conſumption; with a wear, that ſhould at all times let the ſurplus, whenever there was ſuch, run over for a free exportation, with a bounty that would encourage the labour of the farmer, and be an aid to the merchant and ſhipping. That the importation was to create an influx of bread-corn in caſe of ſcarcity, which would always begin to operate as that ſcarcity began to appear, as the merchant and importer would begin to ſpeculate and prepare for importation, and which would, and muſt of courſe, take effect as ſoon as ſuch ſcarcity took place. And that this wear, provided at the ſame time for an exportation, would not only encourage the importation, as the importer would be ſure that his corn, if not wanted here, would not be locked up and impriſoned in England at a loſing price, but would (the moment it became a ſurplus, over and above what was wanted for our internal ſupply) be permitted to go out again, drawing back the duties paid on importation, in aid of our foreign market, which we are in the greateſt danger of loſing, if we have not actually loſt, through our not being able to furniſh the commodity on any certainty. But that this wear, as he called it, letting the ſurplus run over, at all times would prevent any influx of a foreign importation, or any extraordinary plenty of our own crops, from beating and keeping down the price of corn below what was a good encouraging price for the grower, and from clogging the home market. That the poor, and the conſumer in general, need not cry out before they were hurt, through a fear that there would not be a prohibition of exportation until there was an actual famine; for that on this plan a prohibition would take place, not at the will of men, but by regular courſe of law, the moment that wheat roſe to 5 s. and 6 d. the buſhel [xx. 626.]: and that if it ſtill

continued

continued to riſe, and did riſe to 6s. the buſhel, an importation, with a very low duty of 6d. per quarter, ſufficient juſt to aſcertain the quantity, would by the ſame regular courſe of law take effect. That the landed intereſt and grower would no longer be oppreſſed, as it has been for ſeveral years, by a deſultory, temporary ſtopping the exportation as ſoon as wheat was turned of five ſhillings the buſhel, although the law ſaid expreſsly (encouraging them to grow wheat) that they ſhall not only have liberty to export till wheat was ſix ſhillings the buſhel, but ſhould alſo have a bounty for ſo doing. That this plan made a compromiſe betwixt the conſumer and grower; that if the one would be content, as he very well might be, to let the exportation go on till the price was five ſhillings and ſix-pence the buſhel, which is not only a moderate, but a cheap price, and what is neceſſary to encourage and aſſiſt the growth of it, he then might be aſſured of a prohibition of exportation; and if it roſe to ſix ſhillings the buſhel, an importation alſo; which, as the law at preſent ſtands, cannot take effect till it is ten ſhillings the buſhel. That if the grower would not expect a bounty even when wheat was ſix ſhillings the buſhel, but would be content to have it no further than five ſhillings and ſix pence, he ſhould always be ſure, and might depend on it at that price, and alſo be ſure of the exportation up to that price. That the effect of regulating the importation and exportation, by a fixed ſcale and ſyſtem, would keep the price of wheat at or about five ſhillings and ſix pence the buſhel at an average, and of all other grain in proportion. That the farmer, knowing, from a fixed rule, what he had to depend upon as to a market, and the ſale of his produce, would no longer be diſcouraged and imbarraſſed in cropping his ground, but would ſet about in earneſt to raiſe that produce which he was aſſured he had an encouraging and free market for. That the merchant, having a fixed ſcale of prices, and leading to an aſſured rule for importing and exporting, would know how to ſpeculate, and would ſpeculate accordingly; the conſequence of which would be, that when an importation became really neceſſary, it would really take effect; which has not been, and never will be, the caſe by our temporary laws. *L. Ch. April* 21.

Remark. Unleſs a clauſe be inſerted to allow of the importation of corn for ſix or nine months after the ports ſhall be open, the bill, ſo far from being of ſervice, may have very fatal conſequences: for it is not to be ſuppoſed, that any merchant will ſend orders to America, or other corn-countries, unleſs he can be aſſured of his corn being admitted here on arrival, which may be prevented by the farmer lowering the price to 47s. 6d. when he hears of any quantity being expected. This would occaſion an immenſe loſs to the merchant who has endeavoured to procure a ſupply, and is ſuch a riſk as no man in his ſenſes would run. A MERCHANT.——*Lond. Chron. May* 2.

Addreſs of the Sheriffs of London to the Liverymen.

GENTLEMEN,

HAving now completed more than ſix months of the year which you aſſigned us for an important office, we deſire your acceptance of our hearty thanks for the aſſiſtance we have received from you in the diſcharge of our duty, and intreat the continuance of your ſupport and friendly counſels. We have from time to time ſubmitted our conduct to you on a variety of occaſions; and to the laſt moment of our ſheriffalty are determined, that every public tranſaction in which we may be concerned, ſhall be given in all its circumſtances to our candid and diſcerning conſtituents, to whoſe impartial judgement we will always chearfully appeal.

The new freeholders book for the county of Middleſex, and the jurors book for the city of Weſtminſter, have been from the beginning of this year depoſited in the proper offices, and are now always uſed. The jurors book for the city of London is not yet completed, and we fear cannot be perfected before the end of Eaſter term.

The bailiffs, and other inferior officers of juſtice, have been ſtrictly watched, and regularly kept within the bounds of their duty, except in ſome few inſtances. The parties aggrieved have in every ſuch caſe found the moſt ſpeedy relief. We have the ſatisfaction of reflecting, that, the extent and populouſneſs of our juriſdiction conſidered, the applications for redreſs of any kind have not been numerous; and we owe it to the public character of your ſheriffs to declare, that not one has proved ineffectual when the complaint

complaint was well grounded. Few grievances have come to our knowledge, none being left unredreſſed. We think it becomes us to make this appeal to our fellow-citizens, while the power ſtill remains in our hands to do juſtice to every perſon.

Our particular attention has been beſtowed on the many unhappy objects under our care in jails, priſons, and lock-up-houſes. We have frequently in perſon attended this eſſential duty, and afforded every alleviation in our power to the miſeries of thoſe who languiſh under the loſs of the nobleſt bleſſing, and moſt valuable enjoyment, perſonal liberty. We may congratulate our countrymen, that the number of theſe unfortunate perſons has not been attempted to be increaſed this ſeſſion by any illegal royal proclamations, or commitments *during pleaſure*, made by either of the two houſes of parliament. Their late uſurpations on the perſonal rights and privileges of the people ſeem to be given up and ſurrendered. The Lords have not dared ſo unconſtitutional an order of impriſonment, nor to impoſe any fines at their arbitrary will for offences cognizable by juries. No man has been committed at their bar for what their votes, not the laws, declare ſeditious, nor for what they ſo readily find a libel on a brother peer; nor have they ventured to condemn any perſon on the firſt original hearing of a cauſe, which ought to come before them only by appeal from the inferior courts after the verdict of a jury. The Houſe of Commons have tacitly acquieſced in the claim made by many of our worthy fellow-citizens for the people at large, that the conſtituents of this kingdom have a right to be fully informed of all the proceedings of their ſervants in parliament. Their votes indeed aſſert, "That it is an indignity to, and a breach of the privilege of, the Houſe, for any perſon to preſume to give, in written or printed news-papers, any account or minutes of the debates or other proceedings of the houſe, or of any committee thereof:" but the uſurpation was apparent, as well as the *indignity* to their maſters, and the *breach* of the *privileges* of their conſtituents. Their other reſolution in conſequence fell into contempt, "That upon diſcovery of the authors, printers, or publiſhers, of any ſuch written or printed news-paper, the Houſe will proceed againſt the offenders with the utmoſt ſeverity." Several honeſt printers, in defiance of their illegal orders, gave the public under their names all the particulars of their proceedings during the laſt ſeſſion, which the Houſe ſo prudently endeavoured to hide in a darkneſs ſuited to their deeds. The moſt natural effect followed; a general abhorrence of them through the nation. The ſame perſons who aſſerted our right the laſt winter, have through the preſent ſeſſion continued the exerciſe of it in its fulleſt extent. Notwithſtanding the report of the *committee to examine into the ſeveral facts and circumſtances relative to the late obſtructions to the execution of the orders of the Houſe, and to conſider what further proceedings may be requiſite to enforce a due obedience thereto*, was, in expreſs terms, that *the Houſe ſhould order, that the ſaid* J. MILLER *be taken into cuſtody of the ſerjeant at arms attending the Houſe* [xxxiii. 386.], the ſaid J. MILLER is ſtill at large, ſtill continues the ſevereſt attack upon them by faithfully publiſhing their proceedings, ſtill braves their indignation, and—ſleeps ſecure in the city. Among the number of daily offenders of this kind, the corrupt majority in the Houſe of Commons have not preſumed to commit a ſingle printer, although by the late Royal-Marriage bill they have invaded the primary, inherent rights of human nature, and the divine inſtitutions, in the perſons of the deſcendents of the late Moſt Excellent King; and, regardleſs of the cries of the ſtarving poor, employed themſelves, this whole ſeſſion, only to enſlave the family of a prince, whoſe memory becomes every day more dear and ſacred to all true Engliſhmen.

The people are now made the judges of the conduct of their repreſentatives; and the full exertion of the liberty of the preſs, the great bulwark of all our liberties, in ſupport of the conſtitution, with the other acquiſitions for the public, will render this æra ever memorable in our annals. Theſe triumphs over the miniſterial faction we hold more important at this period, becauſe they have been gained, when the chief magiſtrate of the capital had betrayed the rights he was choſen to defend [103.], and trampled upon the known privileges of all the electors of this great city, which his upright predeceſſor vindicated with true ſpirit and courage. Many friends of the cauſe of liberty we know are apprehenſive that the late uſurpations will be ſoon renewed,

renewed, or at leaſt in the following year. We intreat them not to deſpond, nor to indulge that gloomy idea. During our continuance in office we will ſtand forth the protectors of the juſt privileges of the ſubject. Your virtue, Gentlemen of the Livery of London, will, at the enſuing Midſummer, give us ſucceſſors, equally zealous and undaunted in the cauſe of freedom and our country.

We are, Gentlemen, with great deference, your obedient, and faithful, humble ſervants,

Guildhall, JOHN WILKES.
April 6. 1772. FRED. BULL.

To the Worthy Livery of London.

GENTLEMEN, *April 7.* 1772.

MR Wilkes takes you for fools, or means to make you ſuch; and for the honour of this great city expects you will thank him for the compliment, by yielding implicit faith to every article in his fallacious creed.

"The new freeholders book for the city of Weſtminſter and county of Middleſex," he informs you, "has been, from the beginning of the preſent year, depoſited in the proper offices, and are now uſed." It will be no impeachment to your ſagacity, Gentlemen, ſhould you aſk this *Luther* of the age, when the books in queſtion were *not* depoſited in the ſame offices, and uſed at this day? I have told you, Gentlemen, on a former occaſion, that the compiling a freeholders book is no merit in Mr Wilkes; every ſheriff is *obliged* to keep one, every ſheriff *has* kept one from time immemorial; it is not in the ſheriff's power to alter, add, or diminiſh, unleſs you allow him the power of making or unmaking freeholders. The names of all the freeholders in the kingdom are annually given in to the ſheriff by the proper peace-officers of their reſpective diſtricts; and your town-clerk may with as much propriety demand your thanks for a correct liſt of the court of aldermen, as your ſheriff for a liſt of the freeholders. —But ſuch is the merit of your patriot! He has neither virtue or reſolution to be the author of a public benefit, and is therefore neceſſitated to build his pretenſions to it upon the fag-end of legiſlative wiſdom.

The only eſſential ſervice his power miniſterially could have rendered the community, he has moſt ſhamefully neglected; and, with a matchleſs intrepidity of face, ſupplies a faithful diſcharge of his duty by a paltry pretence of having even exceeded it.—If Mr Wilkes had ſet about altering the preſent infamous mode of ſummoning juries at the Old Bailey, (where the life of the ſubject is too often thrown away for want of ſuch alteration), he would indeed have rectified a grievance long and loudly complained of: but the effecting this ſalutary end would have robbed his bailiffs of half-crown perquiſites; a thing he has neither inclination or honeſty enough to do.

He next tells you, that "the bailiffs and other officers of juſtice have been ſtrictly watched, and kept within bounds of their duty." I grant, that according to *his* eſtimation of duty, they diſcharge it with an unimpeachable integrity, by plundering every member of the ſociety that unfortunately becomes the objects of *their* juſtice. But if Mr Wilkes's bronzed countenance ſecures him not from the betraying bluſh of ſhame, you will obſerve a lively bloom on his *cherub's* face, when you require the cauſe of thoſe exorbitant demands continually made by the keepers of our modern inquiſitions, which his *modeſty* terms *lock-up-houſes*. It is not unlikely but he may ſtretch his confidence, and tell you they are aboliſhed; and that the iniquitous cuſtom of robbing his priſoners of five ſhillings to a guinea, under pretence of ſearching the office of Middleſex, is but a mere conjecture.—Perhaps he may think it unreaſonable that you ſhould require an explanation of many other trifling frauds, which originate only in the mutual cheat of his *lambs* at large, and *ewes* in office; therefore I will not put any queſtions to this *vigilant* and *good* ſhepherd for the preſent, more than to beg his flock will deſiſt from extorting the enormous ſum of one guinea per hundred, by way of fees, for filling up a bail-bond.

This *pious* ſheriff next exhibits a portrait of his *amiable* diſpoſition, of his *ſympathizing* nature, and *attention* to the diſtreſſes of his fellow-creatures; and wiſhes you would believe his greateſt delight conſiſts in viſiting, comforting, and alleviating the miſeries of wretched priſoners. To doubt Mr Wilkes's charity, amounts to a full renunciation of the Chriſtian faith: we have recent inſtances of his *benevolence*; *the begging for unfortunate debtors, and the liberal ſubſcription for*

for the lowering the price of proviſions, are laſting monuments of his *feeling* for the priſoner, and his readineſs to *feed* the famiſhed poor. In the name of common ſenſe, what degree of idiotiſm can Mr Wilkes diſcover in the Livery of London, to ſuppoſe they will tamely put up with every inſult he ſhall find convenient to offer them? Shall the impoſtor for ever ſucceed in his pernicious doctrine? ſhall he for ever amuſe you with a bombaſtical parade of liberty, and cunningly filch your natural underſtanding?

The next abſurdity (for his fallacies come in regular order) his preſumption would thruſt down your throat, is ſufficient to naufeate your ſtomachs, and make you caſcade the poiſonous potion in his face. What does he mean by telling you, that "no man has been committed at the bar of either houſe of parliament ſince the commencement of his ſheriffalty?" Here, Gentlemen, I muſt pay you a compliment, which Mr Wilkes's whole fund of politeneſs could not afford: I ſay, Gentlemen, your own penetration will furniſh you with a ſeaſonable and judicious replication; therefore I ſhall only congratulate you on the declining ſtate of anarchy, riot, and diſorder.—Treaſon is grown decrepid,—Faction is in a deep conſumption,—and hoarſe Sedition croaks not through your ſtreets; theſe appendages to the patriot's greatneſs are no more, and he bewails their loſs with all the bitterneſs of an indulgent parent; and you muſt be more than men not to condole with him under ſuch accumulated affliction. Oh! tormenting thought! Treaſon crippled—Faction dying—Sedition dumb—Bolland hanged—The mob grown lazy--and the Livery wiſe.——I am, &c.

ROBERT HOLLOWAY.

The method of raiſing and dreſſing Flax in Holland and other provinces of the Low Countries. By a ſkilful Flax-raiſer.

THE method of farming through the Low Countries is almoſt uniform; their ſoil being either ſand, or clay, or a mixture of both.—Their method of cropping is this. After the land lies three years in graſs, they fallow and dung it, then ſow it with rapſeed, next year with bear, the third year with flaxſeed, the fourth with wheat, the fifth with beans, the ſixth with buck-wheat, the ſeventh with oats and clover, and after lying two or three years under graſs, then they begin to fallow and dung again [xxvi. 417.]. In the Low Countries they ſow more of rye than of any other grain; owing, as I ſuppoſe, to the diſtilling of gin, (which abounds in that country), being the grain from which this ſpirit is chiefly extracted. Upon their poorer ſoils they cultivate madder, which lies two years in the ground. They ſeldom break upon their paſture-ground, but keep it in foggage perhaps twenty-five years running. In ſhort, it is a general rule in that country, to pulveriſe their land as much as poſſible; for which cauſe the plough is never out of the ground, from the moment the crop is cut, till it is ſown again: they give it often ſix, and ſometimes ſeven furrows, in a ſeaſon; this is an effectual remedy for preventing the annual weeds.—They have commonly one horſe in the plough, ſo tractable, that he requires none to lead him, only the man who holds the plough. They plough with an ebb furrow, of two and a half inch deep, and harrow for ordinary with wooden-teeth'd harrows. It is to be obſerved, that the ground is free of ſtones, which they level with an inſtrument called a *mole-board*.

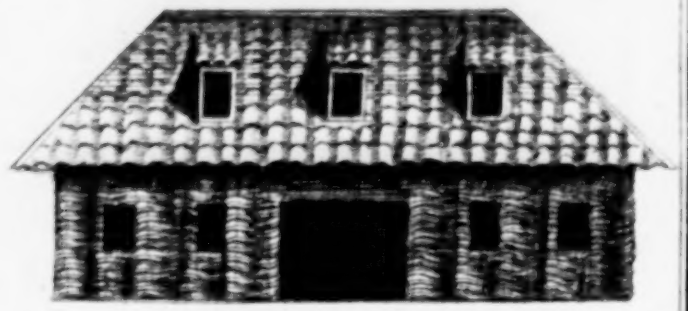
A flax-boor is poſſeſſed of a few gimates of land, ſufficient to keep up two good horſes and three or four cows; and his ſituation is near ſome river of ſoft water, where he has plenty of long canals of ſeven or eight feet broad, and two feet and a half deep: theſe canals are filled when the tide makes.—He has a large ſhade-barn *, the under part of which is wrought in the creel or caſket way, as in the highlands of this country, and the upper part is lofted, with a frame round the floor, to keep the lintſeed from falling into the air-ſhade, or vacant little ſpace between the edge of the loft-floor and the ſhade-end of the roof.—Near this flax-barn is a workhouſe, built of brick, and lofted alſo, for holding dreſſed flax, by way of a warehouſe. In the lower ſtory of this houſe they ſwingle the flax, fitting with ſmall, round, light ſcutchers, upon notched ſtocks, of about two feet high, and three fourths of a foot broad.—At the diſtance of twenty yards from this workhouſe is a ſmall ſquare kiln, built of brick, eight feet by eight, and five and a half feet

* See a plan and elevation of the barn, workhouſe, kiln, and vault, in copperplate, fronting p. 249.

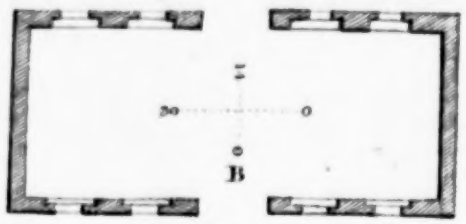
high,

PLAN and ELEVATION of a Dutch Shade, Roofed Barn, Work House, Vault and Kiln, for Manufactoring of FLAX.

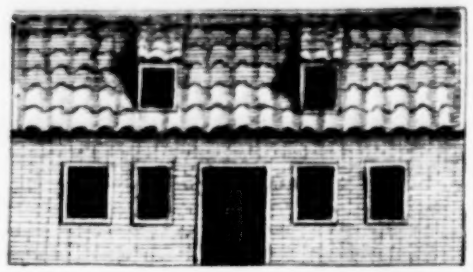
Plan of the Barn



South Front of the Barn



Work House



Work House

high, with croſs timbers upon the top, for holding up the flax from the fire when ſpread upon theſe croſs timbers to dry. This is intended for giving the flax a criſpneſs immediately before it is broke with the common Dutch breaks in uſe here. The feuel made uſe of to give the flax this criſpneſs is the broken boon from the break. This little kiln is not covered with a roof, nor walled at one of its ſides.—Within a few feet of this kiln there is a ſmall arch-roofed houſe, made of brick, for holding the criſped flax upon its end, for fear of any fire being lodged about it. This little vault, all above ground, is twelve feet by eight, and ſeven feet high, ſufficient to hold a day's work of flax. This practice is very neceſſary in Holland, the air being ſo damp. However, in froſty weather it is never uſed.

The flax-boor or farmer, as before obſerved, has but little land in his own poſſeſſion; and having no dependence upon buying green flax while growing, he looks out in the winter-time amongſt the corn-boors, and informs himſelf who has proper land for his purpoſe, no matter at what diſtance. Then he agrees with the boor about the rent; which commonly runs from three to five pounds per gimate, beſides the teind payable to the ſuperior; it being always underſtood that the ſetter of the land is not only to dreſs the ſame, but likewiſe to drive the flax, and deliver it at the ſcont, which is ſeldom one mile and a half diſtant. It is alſo a ſtanding rule, that when the flax-boor views his flax-fields in May, he can either keep his bargain, or throw it in the corn-boor's hands, to do with the crop what he pleaſes. In that caſe the flax-boor loſes his ſeed.—But to return to the ſowing, &c.: Oftentimes the flax-boor has his flax-ſeed ſown in many different plots, lying at great diſtances from each other, ſometimes twenty or thirty miles, or even more, from him. The flax-boors in general ſow from fifteen to forty, and ſometimes fifty barrels of lint-ſeed each, in a ſeaſon.

The ſoil in Holland is either ſand or clay, or a mixture of both. The *polder* lands, as they term it, ſignifying carſe, if dry, is ſown in March, and the light ſoil in April, but never later than the middle of that month. However, the flax-boor and his men are buſy with ſowing one kind or other from the beginning of March till the middle of April. In or-

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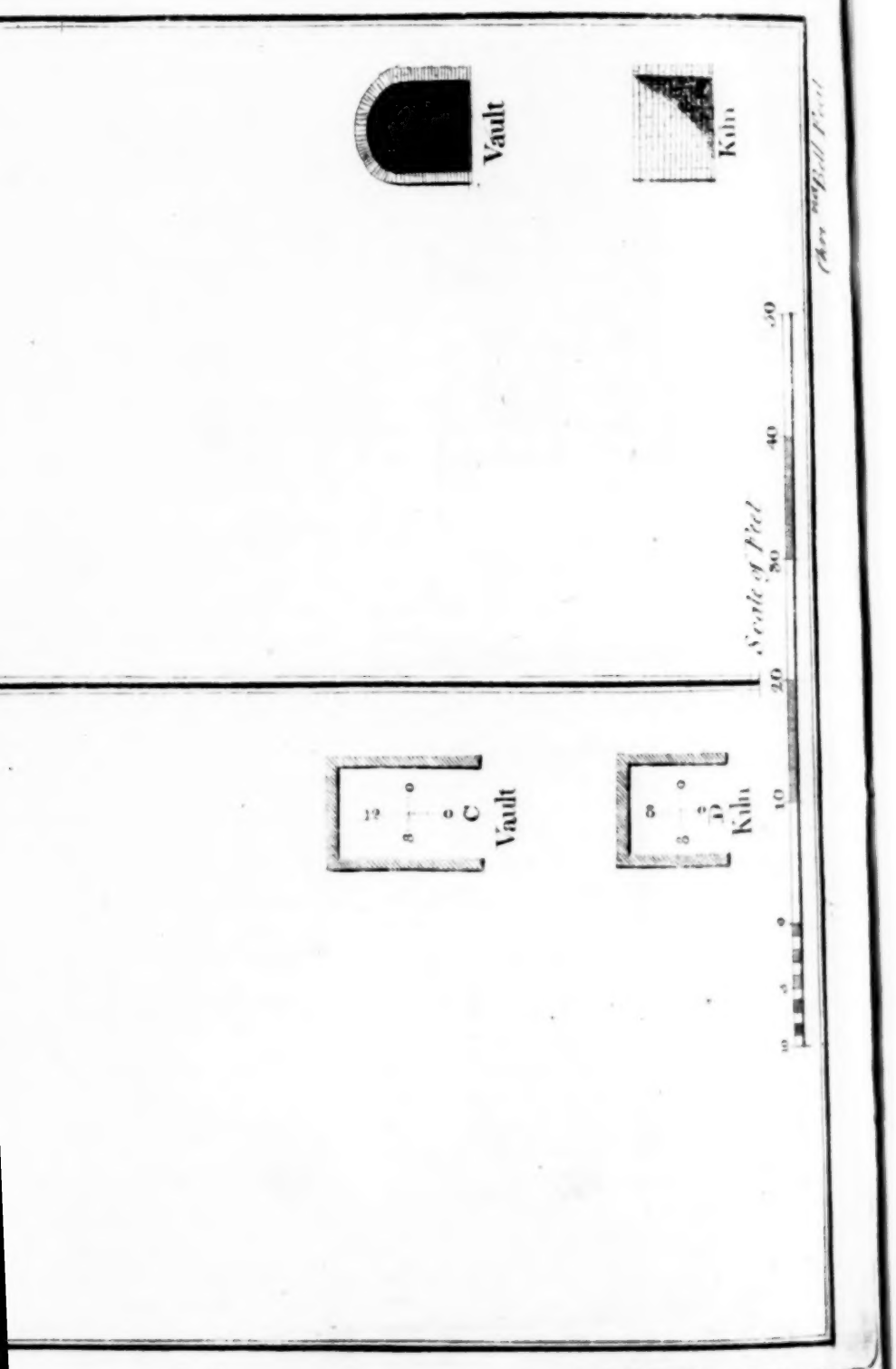
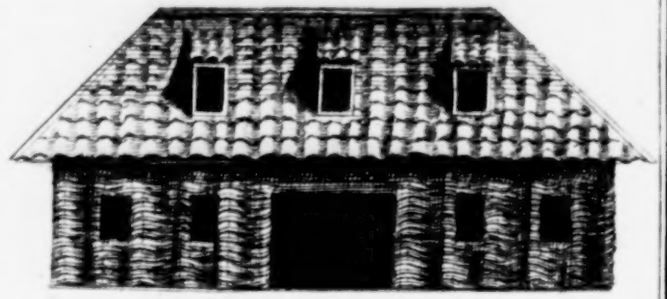


PLAN and ELEVATION of a Dutch Shade, Roofed Barn, Work House, Vault and Kiln, for Manufactoring of FLAX.

Plan of the Barn



South Front of the Barn

Vault

Vault

Kiln

Kiln

Scale of Feet

0 5 0 10 20 30 40 50

Chas. Hall Bell Publ.

high, with cross timbers upon the top, for holding up the flax from the fire when spread upon these cross timbers to dry. This is intended for giving the flax a crispness immediately before it is broke with the common Dutch breaks in use here. The fewel made use of to give the flax this crispness is the broken boon from the break. This little kiln is not covered with a roof, nor walled at one of its sides.—Within a few feet of this kiln there is a small arch-roofed house, made of brick, for holding the crisped flax upon its end, for fear of any fire being lodged about it. This little vault, all above ground, is twelve feet by eight, and seven feet high, sufficient to hold a day's work of flax. This practice is very necessary in Holland, the air being so damp. However, in frosty weather it is never used.

The flax-boor or farmer, as before observed, has but little land in his own possession; and having no dependence upon buying green flax while growing, he looks out in the winter-time amongst the corn-boors, and informs himself who has proper land for his purpose, no matter at what distance. Then he agrees with the boor about the rent; which commonly runs from three to five pounds per gimate, besides the teind payable to the superior; it being always understood that the setter of the land is not only to dress the same, but likewise to drive the flax, and deliver it at the scout, which is seldom one mile and a half distant. It is also a standing rule, that when the flax-boor views his flax-fields in May, he can either keep his bargain, or throw it in the corn-boor's hands, to do with the crop what he pleases. In that case the flax-boor loses his seed.—But to return to the sowing, &c.: Oftentimes the flax-boor has his flax-seed sown in many different plots, lying at great distances from each other, sometimes twenty or thirty miles, or even more, from him. The flax-boors in general sow from fifteen to forty, and sometimes fifty barrels of lintseed each, in a season.

The soil in Holland is either sand or clay, or a mixture of both. The *polder* lands, as they term it, signifying carse, if dry, is sown in March, and the light soil in April, but never later than the middle of that month. However, the flax-boor and his men are busy with sowing one kind or other from the beginning of March till the middle of April. In order to keep up the body of his seed, each flax-boor sows every season about twelve barrels of Riga seed, purchased at eighteen guilders per barrel, (much about what we pay): the rest they sow with seed of their own winning, which, by changing, they sow for two years, then sell it to the sea-port merchants at

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EXPLANATION of the prefixed PLATE.

[*This is taken from a plate annexed to* Directions for Flax-raising, *printed and circulated by order of the Hon. the Trustees for Manufactures, &c.*]

A A large shade-roofed barn 40 by 16 feet; the roof, which is tile, projecting 3 feet over the sides, which are of wicker work; the barn two stories; the lower one for rippling the flax, cleaning the seed, and holding the flax after watering; and the upper one, or loft, which is framed, for winning and holding the lintseed.

B A workhouse, placed about 30 feet distant, towards the south, and is in dimension 30 feet by 14; the lower floor is used for breaking and scutching the flax; the upper, for making up and holding the clean flax; brick walls, and tile roof.

C A little brick-house vault, about 60 feet south of this, all above ground, 12 feet by 8, and 7 feet high, open at the south end: here stands, on end, the crisped flax till it cool, before it is taken into the workhouse, in case of fire being lodged amongst it.

D A little square brick-kiln, open at one of the sides; the thickness of the wall one brick length, all above ground 8 feet by 8; and 5½ feet high, without any cover; having some cross spars of timber, upon which the flax is laid above a weak fire, to receive a crispness, in order to make it free in working. The fuel used here is the flax-boon that falls from the break.

N. B. These houses may be built in Scotland of such materials as are most easily procured; and the dimensions may be proportioned to the quantity of flax raised by the farmer; but no farmer in Holland would attempt the business of flax-raising without such apparatus; and notwithstanding the high price of ground and labour there, they are, by a careful attention to every requisite necessary for flax-raising, enabled not only to supply their own manufactures, but also to export, at a moderate price, great quantities for the service of their neighbours.

The Dutch shades are of wicker work, to give the more air; but they may be built of stone or brick, with such windows as are used by the paper-makers, which admit of more or less air at pleasure.

twelve guilders per barrel, which they ſell to us again. At a medium, three fourths of a Riga barrel ſows a meaſure of land, as before mentioned, called a *ginate*: it contains three hundred roods, and each rood twelve feet ſquare, Rotterdam meaſure, which is larger than our foot.

The flax-boor is at no loſs in getting his flax weeded and pulled by the piece, at four guilders per ginate for weeding, and ſix for pulling it.—The pulling begins in Holland about the 20th of July, after allowing the ſeed to fill and ripen. This operation is performed the ſame way as in this country, laying the flax in croſs handfuls upon a band of flax. In this manner it lies two days, but is turned. Then they bind up, and ſtook it in ſix ſheaves each; where they let it ſtand about two weeks, till the ſeed is pretty well won upon the ſtalk. Then the corn-boor (who ſets the land) drives it to the ſcout; which carries it perhaps to the lint-boors barn-doors: if not, he muſt employ a four-wheeled cart or waggon to carry his flax home. If his own be not at hand, he can hire one for ten ſtivers that will drive twenty threave at a draught near two miles.—When the flax is thus carried to the barn-door, it is made up in ſmall ricks; then all hands go to work in rippling it upon rippling-combs of thirty teeth, which is performed within the barn, in the ſame manner we do here, by women, boys, and men. As faſt as the ripplers ſeparate the ſeed from the ſmall handfuls of flax, it is evened, ſorted, and tied up ſlackly with a ſingle large raſh. When they have in this manner rippled and tied up what fills four or five canals, the rippling is delayed till that is put into the water;—which is done in the following manner. The canal, as I deſcribed before, being ſeven or eight feet wide, two and a half feet deep, and ſixty or ſeventy feet long, and full of ſoft water for three weeks before, they throw, or rather lay, in theſe ſmall ſlack-tied beats, upon their ſide almoſt, and then cover them with the dirt and ſlime taken out of the ſame canal. This done, they proceed to ripple and water the reſt. When the lint lies, as before mentioned, in the canal, from ten to fifteen days, and, upon trial, when found well watered, it is then taken out, and after giving it ſufficient time to drip, it is ſpread very thin upon bare ley or paſture ground, and every four days the flax is turned over by the help of a ſmall pole. This operation would be dangerous in Scotland, as the flax would run the riſk of being blown up with wind; but in that low, level country, full of wood and hedges, it runs no riſk. The flax lying in this manner upon the graſs till it be thoroughly bliſtered from the boon, it is taken up, carried, and laid into the barn. Then they begin to ſwingle with the ſtock and hand, as already deſcribed, in the workhouſe. For every three ſcutchers there is a breaker. They carry ſmall parcels of the flax from the barn, and after giving it a little air of the fire upon the ſmall kiln, it is let ſtand for three or four hours in the little brick vault, and then carried to the workhouſe in ſmall parcels, as the breakers and ſcutchers need it. When a hand is paid by the piece, he gets five ſtivers for ſwingling and making up a parcel of flax containing what they call a ſtone, which is in weight ſix pounds Dutch. The breaker gets one ſtiver and a half for breaking it. A hand for ordinary will ſcutch and make up two heads, or twelve pounds, in a day. The very beſt hand is to be hired at fifteen ſtivers per day. They all work with candle-light. Some of their very beſt hands will ſcutch twenty-four pounds a-day. The boor has ſeventy, and ſometimes one hundred of theſe ſix-pound ſtones from a Riga barrel ſowing, which he ſells at one guilder the ſtone, or ſix pounds.

I come next to the bolls or ſeed. How ſoon the ſeed is rippled from the flax, in the large barn, as before mentioned, it is immediately knocked or threſhed out of the bolls with timber bludgeons, and then they clean the ſeed from every mote with fanners, rinſes, and ſieves of different fineneſs. Then it is carried to the before-mentioned framed lofts or granaries, where it is ſpread very thin upon the floor, and turned often every day, till it is out of all danger from heating; and when thoroughly won, it is ſent in bags to the market, and ſold at the rate of twelve guilders each full Riga barrel, or nine and a half pecks. They reap for ordinary forty pecks from every ten pecks ſown, which is a very conſiderable addition to their profit.

Next as to Hemp. In Holland, the raiſing of hemp is carried on by hemp-boors; and to raiſe and dreſs it is their ſole buſineſs. They differ from the flax-boors: for they have the moſt of the ground

ground uſed for hemp-ſowing in their own poſſeſſion, whereas the flax-boor rents his yearly from the corn-boor. The reaſon is, hemp can be raiſed upon the ſame ground for years, whereas lint cannot be raiſed upon the ſame ground properly but once in nine or ten years. The hemp-boor is poſſeſſed of ſome land, canals, two horſes, ſome kine, a barn, workhouſe, breaks, kiln, and vault, juſt as the lint-boor; only his canals are deeper, his breaks are of different ſizes, greater and ſmaller, his kiln and vault larger than thoſe made uſe of for lint, in proportion as the hemp is longer. In the month of April, after the ground is well prepared, he ſows a meaſure larger than a peck, called *Skipa*, upon a hundred roods of land, each rood containing twelve feet ſquare, Dutch meaſure, that may yield three hundred weight or upwards, ſold at fourteen guilders per hundred. The hemp-land is well dunged every two years. They ſeldom change the ſeed or ſoil.—The male or ſmall hemp is pulled before or about the 20th of Auguſt, and the female or ſeed hemp about four weeks after. After the hemp is pulled, either male or female, it is tied up in ſheaves, and ſtands upon its end in ſmall parcels of four ſheaves together for two weeks, till the ſeed is won. Then it is laid in deep canals; where it remains ſix or ten days, till it is watered. Then it is taken out, and laid upon the ſide of the canal, till it is thoroughly dried, and ſtiff enough to ſtand upon end; when, in place of ſpreading, they twiſt ropes round trees, which ſtand in long rows. Then the hemp is ſpread upon its root-end, and reſts againſt theſe ropes, where it remains till it is thoroughly dry, and bliſtered from the boon. Where there is no trees, poles may ſupply that want. After the hemp is thus found ſufficiently watered, and dry enough, it is carried home to the barn; from which place it is carried out to the criſping or drying kiln, in ſmall parcels, which criſped or dry parcels are laid up in the vault; where they remain a few hours, and what is needed is taken in to the workhouſe from the vault; and being quite free and criſpy, it is firſt broke with a large wide-toothed break, and well ſhaken, to free it as much as poſſible from the boon. Then it is wrought with a finer break, and a third time wrought upon ſtill a finer and cloſer-toothed break, and always ſhaken as before, to free it from the boon. In this manner they finiſh their hemp fit for the heckle.—Some of their fineſt hemp, intended for fine uſe, they peel. This is performed by infirm old people and children. When the heart of the hemp adheres too cloſe to the boon, ſo as not to ſeparate eaſily by the breaks, they force it off, by knocking and rubbing, but never uſe ſcutching. Hemp is raiſed in great quantities, but in ſmall plots, all the way north-eaſt of Dort, for many miles; and the villages are inhabited chiefly by hemp-boors, who carry on little or no other buſineſs. The hemp-boors ſow for ordinary from four to ſix, and ſometimes eight mergins of land, each mergin containing ſix hundred roods, of twelve feet ſquare, Dutch meaſure each rood. The ſoil made uſe of, both for flax and hemp, in Holland, is a rich, loamy, greaſy, dark clay. But the flax-boors ſow a deal in Brabant upon a light ſoil, both for a change of ſeed and finer flax. What ſmall quantities of flax are raiſed in the province of Zealand, are raiſed by the flax-boors who reſide in the province of Holland, and by them carried green to Holland in ſcouts, to be watered, as there is no freſh water in Zealand but what rains from the clouds.

Directions concerning heather roofs, in anſwer to a query, How is the heather to be fixed above the tiles, if not faſtened with ropes? [xxxiii. 562.]

THE farmer who recommended the practice, begs leave to inform the querift, that it is hardly poſſible to give an exact idea, in writing, of the manner in which this operation is performed. It muſt be learned from experience: and in almoſt every country where heather is found in abundance, there are to be found men who practiſe this buſineſs, and almoſt nothing elſe, as it requires a dexterity in the operation that nothing but long practice can fully teach. It may, however, perhaps give the querift ſome ſatisfaction, to be told, in general, that the operator begins at the eaves of the houſes, and, laying on a ſtratum (if I may uſe that expreſſion) of heather, covers that with a ſecond, twiſting the roots of the firſt (in a certain manner which I cannot deſcribe) through among thoſe of the ſecond, and a third and fourth, and ſo on, in the ſame manner, till he comes to the top; and the other ſide being finiſhed in the ſame manner, the roots are ſecured upon the *rigging* of the houſe, by a ſtratum of well-wrought clay, which is in general covered with divots. The whole, when finiſhed, looks as neat as could be wiſhed for. I never knew of one roof that had been covered in this way that was ever diſcompoſed by the moſt violent wind. *W. M.*

Conſiderations on money, bullion, and foreign exchanges. [154.]

THere are two leading queſtions that offer themſelves to conſideration, on the article of *coinage*, in which the publick are generally intereſted, and with reſpect to which there are none who think at all on this ſubject, that do not wiſh for information. The firſt regards the ſcarcity of the current coin, and the ſource of this evil, ſo univerſally lamented. The ſecond propoſes a ſeaſonable and ſufficient remedy. The fact itſelf is unqueſtionable; every day's experience abundantly atteſts it; and thoſe who are moſt concerned in the circulation of money, are moſt ſenſible of its truth. Nor is this an evil which affects only interior tradeſmen; it likewiſe extends its very baneful influence to our manufacturers, and to all the lower claſſes of people. We need not repreſent, for they are well known,—nor is there room to aggravate, becauſe they are too numerous and hurtful,—the inconveniencies and injuries which are to be attributed to this cauſe.

In tracing out the ſource of this evil, we are at firſt ready to ſuſpect, that there muſt be a deficiency of coinage anſwerable to the neceſſary demands of the public. But this does not appear to be the caſe. Though the coinage of gold and ſilver is attended with very conſiderable loſs, both to the government and the public, it is a certain fact, that more gold has been coined within theſe laſt ten years, (except in the reign of K. William), than in any equal number of years in our Engliſh hiſtory; yet we do not find any increaſed quantity of gold coin in circulation; on the contrary, it is lamented, that there never was known leſs than at preſent. The coinage of ſilver has been more diſadvantageous, and therefore much leſs conſiderable. Our author has given a table of the quantity of gold and ſilver coined for thirty years, from 1741 to 1770; from which it appears, "that there has been coined in ten years, from Jan. 11. 1759 to Jan. 11. 1760, 107,356lb. wt. 9 oz. 12 dwt. 17gr. of gold; and, Sterling value of the gold being 3l. 17s. 10½d. per ounce, this amounts in currency to 8,500,000l. Sterling, and upwards." "But this vaſt coinage," he obſerves, "has been carried on only for the benefit of merchants, who have exported it in preference to bullion, in the payment of balances, becauſe they can export it at upwards of two and a half per cent. greater profit. Therefore an expence of 70,000l. ſuſtained by government, and 212,500l. loſs ſuſtained by the bank, &c. (at theſe ſums he eſtimates the ſeveral charges attending the above coinage) has been only furniſhing means for theſe merchants to carry on their illegal trade." The reaſon is plain, as our ingenious author has ſtated it: "If the ſtandard coin is in any conſiderable degree of more value as bullion than as coin, no laws, however ſevere, can prevent its being melted down, and exported, in preference to bullion; conſequently, in time, there muſt become a great ſcarcity, which is the caſe at preſent with regard to the coin of this nation, eſpecially of our ſilver coin of full weight. That this is really the caſe, is clear from the following calculation: Standard of gold, 22 carrats of fine gold; two ditto of allay: remedy, the ſixth part of a carrat. The value of the pound-weight of gold, when coined, is 46l. 14s. 6d. the mint-price, or 3l. 17s. 10½d. per oz. Preſent price of ſtandard gold, as bullion, is 3l. 19s. 6d. per oz. or 4l.: if calculated at the former price, the preſent pound-weight is worth 47l. 14s. the current price of gold bullion at market: therefore there is a loſs upon the coinage of gold, taken at the loweſt price of bullion, at preſent, of 19s. 6d. per pound-weight, which is upwards of two per cent.

Standard of ſilver, 11 ounces two pennyweight of fine ſilver; 18 ditto of allay: remedy, two pennyweight in the pound-weight Troy. The value of the pound-weight of ſilver, when coined, is 3l. 2s. the mint-price, or 5s. 2d. per ounce. Preſent price of Sterling ſilver bullion is, from 5s. 5d. to 5s. 6d. per oz.: if calculated at 5s. 5d. the pound-weight is worth 3l. 5s. the current price of ſilver bullion at market, or 5s. 5d. per oz.: therefore there is a loſs upon the coinage of ſilver, taken at the loweſt price of bullion, at preſent, of 3s. per pound weight, which is 5 per cent."

From theſe principles the author deduces the following obſervations: "That the gold coin in currency is valued at 15 to 1, in reſpect to ſilver; but the value of

of the gold bullion in reſpect to the ſilver bullion, compared with their reſpective prices at market, is as 14½ to 1: and therefore the gold coins paſs for more than they ought by upwards of three per cent. compared with the preſent prices of the bullion of each metal at the London market. If, on the contrary, the intrinſic value of our gold coins were greater than our ſilver money in proportion to currency, melters and exporters would prefer them to ſilver; but, in the preſent caſe, the ſilver will be more eagerly ſought after than the gold coins. And this circumſtance naturally accounts for the greater ſcarcity of the former, than of the latter. For inſtance, a good ſtandard crown piece of ſilver, weighing nearly an ounce, paſſes for no more as currency than five ſhillings; but when melted down, or exported, will ſell as bullion for five ſhillings and three pence; and ſo in proportion the reſt of the good ſilver coins, that is, five per cent. above currency. No preventive laws can put a ſtop to ſo lucrative a trade, while ſilver money equal to ſtandard can be procured. —Trade muſt be carried on entirely by worn, clipt, counterfeit, or debaſed coins. And this grievance would continue, without hopes of a freſh ſupply of good money, unleſs ſome regulations were made to reduce bullion to mint-price. If government ſhould think proper to be at the expence of continually coining new money, equal to the preſent ſtandard, for the exigencies of trade; yet, while bullion continues to be ſo much above mint-price, this meaſure would be far from remedying the evil."

The author purſues the ſubject, in the ſequel of his work, and collects together ſeveral additional circumſtances that account for the preſent ſcarcity of coin. Suppoſing no inconvenience to ariſe from the balance of trade, but that this was greatly in our favour, "there are other circumſtances that prevent the bullion brought hither by that means from ſtaying with us; viz. Remittances abroad, on account of foreign wars; and even in times of peace, ſince foreigners have lodged much money in our funds: the annual payment we make to them on this laſt account, is eſtimated at about one million and a half Sterling; and is ſo much annual drawback from the increaſed bullion ariſing from trade.—The increaſed riches and luxury of individuals require more plate in their houſes than formerly.—And again, the gold and ſilver made uſe of in gilding and waſhing, in our various manufactures, is an abſolute conſumption or annihilation of bullion; and this appears to be an object deſerving conſideration in this place. I have been aſſured by an eminent manufacturer at Birmingham, that that town uſes, in the gilding and waſhing of buttons, &c. gold and ſilver bullion to the amount of fifty thouſand pounds Sterling per ann. and upwards. We may therefore reaſonably ſuppoſe, that the conſumption of bullion, by ſuch means, throughout all the manufactories carried on in G. Britain, is very great. Though this is ſo much conſumption of bullion, yet it is not ſo much loſs to the nation, as great part of thoſe buttons, &c. are exported abroad, and conſequently occaſion freſh bullion to be brought hither. When all theſe vaſt demands for bullion are conſidered, it is rather ſurpriſing that we do not feel a greater ſcarcity thereof, than that there is not a greater plenty; and I think it proves, that the balance of merely our trade with foreign nations muſt be greater than moſt calculators have made it."

How to remedy this evil, is the moſt material, and much the moſt difficult queſtion. The proximate cauſe is the high price of bullion, compared with the mint-price; but the reaſons of this difference are not ſo eaſily aſcertained. To inveſtigate theſe, opens a very large field of inquiry on this ſubject; nor can the inquiry be purſued without great ſkill and caution. Many ſchemes have been propoſed for reſtoring and preſerving an equality in this reſpect; which, however plauſible they may have appeared at firſt, and likely to anſwer the deſired purpoſe, have been productive of no very conſiderable or laſting advantage. Mr Lowndes, who was ſecretary to the treaſury in the reign of K. William, propoſed to increaſe the current value of our money, in order to make it correſpond with the price of bullion for the time being; Mr Locke oppoſed this propoſition; and endeavoured to prove, that the ſtandard of money ſhould not be violated or altered on any pretence whatever; and his arguments prevailed. Mr Harris, a late officer in the mint, publiſhed *An eſſay upon Money and Coins*, in which he adopts and confirms the opinion of Mr Locke. Our ingenious author examines the leading principles of each of theſe writers;

and

and though he does not entirely agree with either of them, he rather inclines to the opinion of Mr Lowndes, under ſome reſtrictions and amendments.

Having traced the ſubject through its mazes, with great judgement and labour, he leaves it with the public to determine, what is the cauſe of *the preſent high price of bullion*. The ſubſtance of his whole inquiry (he obſerves) may be comprized in theſe two queſtions: "Is it owing to the bad ſtate of our preſent current money? All we have to do is to amend it by a new coinage on the old ſtandard; and we ought not to heſitate a moment to carry the meaſure into execution; for the national expence attending it would be very inadequate to the national benefit, as well as convenience. But if the preſent high price of bullion ſhould appear to be owing to the prices of exchanges between this country and foreign nations having riſen to our prejudice of late years, compared with former times, and that this riſe of exchanges is occaſioned by the *annual balance ſent hither being leſs than formerly*; which is my preſent opinion; and it alſo appears to me, that, provided there is one million Sterling annually remitted to foreigners, on account of intereſt of money they have lodged in our funds, though, I believe, it is uſually eſtimated at one million and an half: this deficiency of balance proceeds principally from that circumſtance, rather than from the declenſion of our *actual trade*. If the high price of bullion be owing to a deficiency of balance, I offer the above propoſition for diminiſhing the ſtandard of both gold and ſilver coin ſo much as to make them correſpond with the price of bullion on the average of theſe laſt fifty years, and to make them correſpond with each other in intrinſic value, as the only effectual method of ſupplying this country with a ſufficiency of current money for any length of time; hoping the public will take it under conſideration, how far the meaſure may at preſent be expedient."

The author modeſtly concludes, "after having endeavoured to ſtate the ſeveral opinions and reaſonings on all ſides with candour and perſpicuity, and ventured to give my reaſons for altering the ſtandard of both our ſilver and gold coins at preſent, as a proper mode of relief from the inconveniencies ariſing from the preſent ſcarcity of ſpecie; I leave to others more nicely to examine, and to determine, how far my arguments may be deemed concluſive. Perhaps we may differ about the means of redreſs, yet in this we ſhall all agree, *that ſomething however ſhould be done*."

We ſhall only remark, on the whole, that this eſſay contains many ſenſible and uſeful obſervations; that the author has urged ſeveral objections, worthy of notice, againſt the preſent mode of coinage, and obviated many of the difficulties which had been raiſed againſt any alteration in the preſent ſtandard. But as this eſſay ſeems to be only a part of the writer's plan, we ſhall ſuſpend our judgement, and conclude with intimating our opinion, that his farther thoughts on this ſubject will not be unacceptable, or unuſeful, to the public. M.

LONDON.

Plays and Poetry.

The Grecian daughter; a tragedy. Acted at Drury-lane. 1 s. 6 d. *Griffin.* —— Mr Murphy the reputed author. If not a capital, a good ſecond-rate play; in no reſpect unworthy the author of the *Orphan of China* and *Zenobia*. M. — With an adherence to uniformity of character, and propriety of ſentiment, the author has ſupported the ſtyle in a degree of elevation correſpondent to the dignity of the tragic muſe; but neither is eaſe ſacrificed to pomp, nor paſſion to the beauties of poetry. C.

An hour before marriage; a farce of two acts. As it was attempted to be acted at the theatre-royal in Covent-garden. 1 s. *Johnſton.* —— The author is a gentleman of Dublin, and this *petite piece* a firſt attempt. It is not ill-written, nor deſtitute of either humour or character; but it was rejected by the audience on the firſt night of its appearance on Covent-garden theatre; owing, perhaps, to ſome deficiency in reſpect of that artificial *contrivance* which ſeems neceſſary to make a play *act well*. M.

Poems on ſeveral occaſions. By William Dine. 1 s. *Robinſon & Roberts.* —— Diſcover the efforts of a natural genius ſtruggling under the preſſure of miſfortunes. C.

Galfred and Juetta; or, The road of nature. A tale in three cantos. By the late Thomas Brerewood, Eſq; 2 s. 6 d. *Bladon.* —— Written near forty years ago. A tedious recital of the low and looſe intrigues among the ſervants, male and female, at Galfred-hall. The author appears, indeed, to have poſſeſſed a pretty good talent at deſcribing the natural ſcenes afforded in a country-life; and in this, we apprehend, conſiſts his only merit. M.

[*The reſt of the books are deferred.*]

The

The ODE performed at the opening of the new Exhibition-room of the Royal Incorporated Society of Artists of Great Britain.

Written by E. Lloyd, author of *The Powers of the Pen, &c.* and set to music by Mr Hook.

— Ingenuas didicisse fideliter artes
Emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros.

OVID.

'TWas where grim Mars with ruin strew'd the plain,
And wide display'd the terrors of his reign,
While Discord wav'd her crimson wings,
Dripping with the blood of kings,
Britannia wept forlorn to see
Death revel 'midst her progeny;
Then ask'd of Heav'n to temper, not debase,
The savage fierceness of her warlike race.

Ye powers! soothe a mother's care;
Propitious to a mother's pray'r,
Vouchsafe a boon that may assuage
My martial island's burning rage!
The Pen, the Pencil, and the Lyre,
Might gentler bravery inspire,
And manners mild infuse —
Then send, O Heav'n! the Muse.

Her prayer prevail'd — from Heav'n the Muse descends,
And in her train each Liberal Art attends.

In softer murmurs let the hills
Pour down fresh Heliconian rills;
Ye vales, with groves of laurel swell,
The Muse now deigns with you to dwell.

Hark thro' the enchanted isle
The choir of Phœbus sings!
They teach the warrior's brow to smile,
And tame the heart of kings!

Tame, not *enfeeble*; — firmer is the steel
When made the polish of the file to feel.

The *Sister of the Pencil* came
With these — another and the same —
She came, and lent her plastic hand
To humanize the savage land:
Iris on her steps attended,
And the mimic colours blended.

Hail! wondrous art! whose power is such,
With mightiest magic fraught,
It gives with a Promethean touch
To colour life and thought!

Not Ægypt's skill so well can save,
And give the form t' elude the grave;
When Fate condemns, thy hand reprieves,
And after death the *person* lives.

Vain are the ravages of Time;
Thy Pencil gives eternal prime:
When Delia moulders in the tomb,
On canvas she retains her bloom.

From thee a new creation grew,
Adorn'd with ev'ry living hue
That Phœbus' orb illumes:
Each moral quality, no more
Abstracted notions, as before,
A person'd shape assumes!

Each passion by the *Pencil* dress'd,
Is better to the mind,
Than in the writer's page;
And *Virtues*, which with langour pine
When pedant moralists define,
In cherub forms engage.

Picture, music of the eye,
Might tempt a seraph from the sky,
'Mid kindred forms on earth to roam,
And think it his celestial home.

Less is the ardour cold narration gives,
Or fame historic kindles in the breast,
Than when the war in glowing colours lives,
And heroes on the canvas field contest;
And less energic holy prelates call
To penitence than Raphael's pictur'd Paul.

What were life without the Muse?
Toil that wisdom would refuse;
Nought of living, but the breath,
Days of blood, and nights of death.

Genius of Arts! here turn thy eyes,
Behold to thee this temple rise!
Lo! thy priests, a sacred band,
Round thy altar musing stand;
The sweet enthusiasts deign t'inspire,
And fill their breasts with thoughts of fire!
When living tables they design,
Stamp thou thyself on ev'ry line;
Teach the Passions how to glow,
And Virtue's comely semblance shew;
Bid her ev'ry charm unfold,
And men reform as they behold.
Let Vice with Gorgon terrors scare,
And bid her votaries beware —
Open Clio's brightest page
Where Honour's noblest deeds engage!
To make her charms still more inflame,
Contrast them with the shade of Shame!
Let Brutus here each danger brave,
And Cæsar stab his Rome to save.
There teams of slaves, in tyrant's chain,
Teach Britons slavery to disdain;
And from Britannia's annals bring
The portraits of a Patriot King.

Albion thus thy gifts possessing,
Shall abound in every blessing;
Greater shall her monarchs be;
Nobler her nobility;
To patriots shall her peasants turn,
And with the love of Freedom burn.

The Pow'r descends! from his auspicious nod
The temple lives, and shews the present God.

Behold! the Arts around us bloom,
And this Muse-devoted dome
Rival the works of Athens and of Rome.

To

To the memory of a very promiſing Child.

LAmented Babe,—how early haſt thou fled!
How quickly gone to join the ſilent dead!
Tir'd of vain life, or dreading woes to come,
Say, have you ſought the refuge of the tomb?
And muſt that prattle that amus'd before,
That rais'd delight, be mute, and heard no more?
Muſt that fair form, that lovely piercing eye,
Fade in the grave, and veil'd in darkneſs lie?
Ye tender parents, what can ſpeak the wo
Your boſoms feel, to ſee a child laid low;
A child who flatter'd every fond deſire,
Or fancy forms, or gaveſt hopes inſpire?
In him each virtue that commands applauſe,
In him each charm that admiration draws,
Would ſhoot and flourish; but the hand of Death,
Came unexpected,—ſtop'd his fragrant breath.
The cruel ſpoiler hy'd with fatal haſte,
And laid his beauties and his glories waſte.—
Thus falls the flow'ret of the vernal morn,
When froſt aſſails, of all its honours torn:
A tender ſpoil, ſtrew'd, withering, where it grew,
No more its leaves imbibe the genial dew.
Ye gentle ſouls that ſaw a brother fail,
That ſaw the roſes on his cheek grow pale,
How will ye mourn, bereft his liſping talk,
His chearful frolick, at the breezy walk!
How will your boſoms heave the plaintive ſigh,
And many a tear will fall from either eye.
How oft, while wand'ring by ſome pebbly ſtream,
Will Echo ſad, repeat the tender name?
How oft, in ſleep, will his dear form ariſe,
Array'd in white, all fair to Fancy's eyes?
But peace, lov'd Babe, attend thy balmy reſt,
And light the turf lie on thy infant breaſt.—
Thro' all the year, where thy remains are laid,
There lilies blow, and roſes fragrance ſhed:
There guardian angels flit on ſecret wing,
And to thy ſhade celeſtial anthems ſing.

J. GRANT.

Nature againſt Garrick. } NOTICE of PROCESS.

POor NATURE, *Garrick*, brings by me,
An action, and thus grounds her plea:

She never made a man but ſtill
You could be like that man at will;
Yet muſt ſhe ever hope in vain
To make a man like you again.

Hence ſhe complains, and juſtly too,
She's beggar'd every way by you.
Wherefore, &c. &c.

B—— Solicitor for the Plaintiff.

HUMAN PRIDE.

YON ſtrutting mortal ſeems to have forgot
In how few hours that haughty fleſh may rot!
To-day he drives thee from him by his ſwell;
Next week, perhaps, he'll do it by his ſmell.
Exalt our ſtation high as Nature can;
Much will be much; *pride muſt not rule for man.*
The real difference in mortals' fate,
Is, that his Highneſs *ſinks* in greater ſtate.

A PARAPHRASE *on the* EIGHT BEATITUDES *attempted.*

I.

BLeſt is the man, of high or low degree,
Who keeps his ſoul from pride's contagion free:
That ſoul, diſpos'd all virtues to embrace,
Shall dwell for ever in the realms of peace.

II.

Bleſt is the man who feels with anxious mind
The ſad perverſeneſs of the human kind:
His griefs ſhall paſs with a few tranſient years,
And endleſs comfort ſhall dry up his tears.

III.

Bleſt is the man whoſe meek and patient frame
No fiery blaſt of anger can inflame:
'Tis he alone can life's enjoyment boaſt,
While peeviſh ſouls in fretful broils are loſt.

IV.

Bleſt is the man who eagerly aſpires
To love his God, and truth all vain deſires:
His high ambition will ſucceſsful prove;
He ſhall be fill'd with righteouſneſs and love.

V.

Bleſt is the man who feels another's woe,
Whoſe kindly hand relieves his ſuff'ring foe:
When he, diſtreſs'd, implores th' Almighty's aid,
The mercy he has ſhown ſhall be repaid.

VI.

Bleſſed are they whoſe pure and candid hearts,
Nor harbour vice, nor ſcheme deceitful arts:
On earth the light of God ſhall guide their way,
In heav'n the ſplendor of eternal day.

VII.

Bleſſed are they whoſe ſouls delight in peace,
Who warmly labour to make diſcord ceaſe:
Their luſtre ſhall outſhine imperial thrones;
For God himſelf ſhall own them for his ſons.

VIII.

But he whoſe virtue, in corrupted times,
Reſiſts the torrent of prevailing crimes;
Firm to his point, amidſt oppreſſive wrongs,
Nor dreads the ſcoffs of falſe and ſpiteful tongues;
'Tis his to claim heaven's kingdom as his own,
Where endleſs glory ſhall his labours crown.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION.

To the memory of a worthy and much-lamented Chevalier. By a Friend.

AH! why have we rear'd up this ſtone,
And what is it meant to impart?
The praiſe of poor ——, who was known
For his worth and his goodneſs of heart?

His friends would exclaim, with a ſigh,
"This trouble might well have been ſav'd;
And ſtriking their boſoms would cry,—
"Ah! here it is deeper engrav'd."

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

POLAND.

"*London*, *April* 15. A letter from Poland, dated March 17. mentions, that a gang of wretches, calling themſelves Confederates, had viſited the cot of the miller who in the fatal night of the 3d of November laſt afforded an aſylum to the King, and ſo cruelly treated the poor man, that he was found almoſt expiring. They wanted, it ſeems, to carry off the miller's ſon to whom the King ſtood godfather; but the mother eſcaped with the infant; and in revenge they ſet fire to the mill."

"*Warſaw*, *April* 19. The Pruſſians ſeize all the Confederates that fall in their way, and extend themſelves farther and farther into the palatinates of Kaliſch, Poſnania, Inowroclaw, and Cujavia. The general opinion is, that the Pruſſians have views on Poliſh Pruſſia, and we are not without fears of that ſort here.—We have received advice, that a body of Confederates has found means to pierce the Pruſſian cordon of troops near Kaliſch, and had fallen in with a convoy of 300 carriages, laden with grain, which the Pruſſians had collected in Poland; and that, after breaking the carriages in pieces, and deſtroying the corn, they made their eſcape."

"*Cracow*, *April* 24. The commander of the caſtle, M. Choiſi, capitulated this day. The garriſon ſurrendered at diſcretion, and will march out the day after to-morrow."

"*Cracow*, *April* 30. The Ruſſians took poſſeſſion of the caſtle the 26th of this month; and the Confederates, in number about 720, beſides 44 officers, came out the ſame day as priſoners of war."

"*Warſaw*, *May* 2. The Pruſſians have driven all the Confederates out of Great Poland. It is reported here, that the Auſtrian troops that have orders to enter Poland, amount to 40,000 men. If credit may be given to public accounts, there is a triple alliance on foot between the courts of Peterſburg, Berlin, and Vienna."

"*Warſaw*, *May* 2. The Pruſſian troops continue to levy contributions in Great Poland. After they had collected a quantity of proviſions, they further demanded recruits, cattle, and beds. It is ſuſpected, that they want to get poſſeſſion of Czentochau.

Marſhal Laſochi, having taken ſome Ruſſian officers, with fifteen men who attended them, in a wood three leagues from hence, he ſent a trumpet to General Bibikow, to propoſe to him an exchange of thoſe priſoners for the ſame number of Confederates, otherwiſe that he would hang them up. The General returned for anſwer, that he would not enter into any negotiation with a rebel; and that if he had taken any Ruſſians who did not know how to defend themſelves, he might hang them.

Marſhal Zaremba ſent here an officer of diſtinction with letters for the King, and the miniſters of ſtate. He offers to ſurrender himſelf with 1500 men; but would be glad to know to whom he ſhould ſurrender, whether to the Republic, to the Ruſſians, or the Pruſſians, who ſurround them? The miniſtry replied, that when he formed a confederacy, he had not aſked advice, and that in the preſent circumſtance they had none to give him."

"*Hamburg*, *May* 5. Letters from Poland mention, that the Auſtrian troops who formed the line on the frontiers of that kingdom, are on march towards Cracow. They conſiſt of twenty-four or twenty-ſix battalions of infantry. The cavalry is compoſed of Lowenſtein's light-horſe dragoons, of Bathiani's, &c. and ſix regiments of huſſars. Theſe troops are commanded by General Haddick, who has under him a lieutenant-general and five major-generals."

"*Hamburg*, *May* 15. Letters from Warſaw mention, that ſince the taking of the caſtle of Cracow, the Auſtrian troops, in number about 24,000 men, are advanced within two miles of that city; and it is thought they will act in concert with the Pruſſians, to re-eſtabliſh tranquillity in Poland. In ſhort, it is ſaid that the King of Poland will marry a princeſs of the houſe of Auſtria."

RUSSIA.

"*Peterſburg*, *April* 17. There is at preſent no appearance of the plague in any part of the Ruſſian dominions; and by the laſt accounts from Crim Tartary, the diſtemper no longer exiſted there, at leaſt not in any quarter occupied by the troops." *Lond. gaz.*

DENMARK.

"*Copenhagen*, *April* 21. The following advertiſement is publiſhed in the gazette of this city.

"As a piece circulates in public, intitled, *Contents of the ſpeech pronounced before*

before the High Tribunal by the Attorney of the Sovereign court of Juſtice, Uhldahl, at Copenhagen, the 16th of March 1772, *in defence of a perſon of high diſtinction* [213.], I ought, in witneſs to the truth, to declare, that ſuch ſpeech was never made, and is entirely falſe and ſpurious. *Copenhagen, April* 20. 1772. UHLDAHL."

"*Amſterdam, May* 12. The King ſigned the ſentence of Struenſee and Brandt in his way when he came from Charlottenburg, and was going to the playhouſe at ſeven o'clock at night, and from the palace he went directly to the playhouſe, where he ſtaid only half an hour, being very uneaſy about what he had ſigned and done. He went therefore out of the playhouſe with intention to ſign their pardon; which, it is ſaid, he did; but it was with-held through a certain Lady-dowager from its force. It is even thought that the King did not know the contents of the ſentence, or in what manner the illuſtrious priſoners were to be executed."

"*Copenhagen, May* 9. The royal approbation of the ſentence paſſed on the late Count Struenſee, &c. was expreſſed in the following terms. "We approve in all points of the above ſentence, pronounced by the commiſſion of inquiſition which we had eſtabliſhed at the caſtle of Chriſtianſbourg, and by which John Frederick Struenſee, guilty in more than one reſpect of the crime of high treaſon in the higheſt degree, is condemned to loſe his honour, his life, and his eſtates, &c. Whereupon, &c.— Written at our caſtle of Chriſtianſbourg, the 27th of April 1772. CHRISTIAN.

O. Thott. Luxdorph. A. Schumacher. Dan. Hoyer."

In our laſt we inſerted an account of the execution of Counts Brandt and Struenſee [214.]; but as the following contains a minute detail of the circumſtances of that ſhocking affair, we inſert it entire.

"*Copenhagen, April* 28. Yeſterday it was made known that the execution of Counts Brandt and Struenſee was fixed for this day. The timber for building the ſcaffold had been previouſly brought to a place before the caſtle-gate, called *the Exerciſe*, and was erected yeſterday with the uſual ceremonies on ſuch occaſions, under the ſound of a band of muſic; it was about ſixteen feet high and fourteen ſquare. This morning early, when both the convicts had been prepared by two clergymen for their untimely end, and received the ſacrament in the preſence of the officers on duty, Mr Ortwed, the King's ſheriff, and counſellor of the ſtate, came at eight o'clock into the citadel, called *Frederick's haven*, to conduct them to the place of execution. They were ſeparately conveyed thither in a hackney-coach, in company of the officers under whoſe cuſtody they were. Each carriage was eſcorted and ſurrounded by a party of dragoons with drawn ſwords, and ſome infantry with fixed bayonets. Mean while 400 infantry of different regiments in garriſon had formed a line of circumvallation round the ſcaffold; and in their rear was a detachment of dragoons. Lt-Gen. Eichſtedt was at ſeven o'clock in the morning at the place of execution, and had given the above orders. The marines marched out in ſeparate bodies, though without forming themſelves round the ſcaffold. The number of ſpectators was incredible. The populace began leaving the city at four in the morning. About eight two clergymen arrived in their own carriages. The executioners (one of the city, and the other of the marines) arrived likewiſe, and gave neceſſary orders on the ſcaffold. The firſt was to do the execution (which he did), and the other was to aſſiſt him. Before the arrival of the clergymen and executioners, every body was admitted on the ſcaffold to ſatisfy their curioſity. About nine o'clock the unhappy ſufferers arrived, with the ſheriff, the attorney-general, and ſome ſervants belonging to the court of juſtice.

They alighted without the line of circumvallation, and entered the doors of the ſcaffold, where Abbé Hee received Count Brandt. The counſellor of ſtate, Mr Ortwed, and the attorney-general, the ſervants of the court of juſtice went immediately on the ſcaffold; Count Brandt, in company of the Abbé, followed, and ſtood on the higher part thereof, being erected for that purpoſe. The Abbé held an admoniſhing and conſolatory diſcourſe to the Count, which he heard with a ſerious and undaunted, though not unbecoming countenance, keeping his gold-laced hat on all the while. Then the judge read that part of the ſentence in which his crimes were enumerated, during which he ſhrugged his ſhoulders ſeveral times, and looked up to heaven with a countenance that expreſſed

preſſed his inmoſt ſorrow and repentance. When the concluſion of the ſentence was to be read, command was given to the infantry to preſent their firelocks, and all thoſe on the ſcaffold took off their hats, which the Count did alſo, but put it on again with the reſt. Abbé Hee held another diſcourſe with a loud voice to him, under which he expreſſed ſeveral ſigns of devotion, mixed with a rectitude of ſoul, ſhewing no fears of death. The Count ſpoke ſeveral times with his face ſtedfaſt to the Abbé. When he had done, the Abbé laid both hands on his head, adminiſtered to him the ſacerdotal benediction, and gave him up to the executioner.

The executioner took the Count's coat of arms, which was painted on a pannel for that purpoſe, ſhewed it to all the ſpectators, broke it in pieces, and flung it on the ground, ſaying aloud, "This is not done without juſt reaſon, it is done defervedly:" on which the Count threw his fur-cloak off, and ſtood in a green ſuit laced with gold. He pulled off coat and waiſtcoat himſelf (having previouſly felt into all the pockets, which it is ſuppoſed he was accuſtomed to do). He began to unbutton the ſhirt-ſleeve on his right hand, and took his ſtock off, when the executioner began to aſſiſt him, and pulled the collar of his ſhirt down. He knelt down of his own accord, and laid his head and right hand on the block, Abbé Hee continuing near, and adminiſtering comfort to him. The execution was done in a moment. The Count died manly. The ſervants of the executioners came now forward, ſtripped the body naked, cut off the genitals, took out the intrails, put both into a tub, quartered the body, and conveyed it by means of a rope into a waggon under the ſcaffold, let down the tub, took the head, and after ſhewing it round to the ſpectators, caſt it along with the hand into the waggon alſo.

Now they ſwept the ſcaffold, and ſtrewed ſand to hide the blood; after which Count Struenſee, with Paſtor Munſter, appeared on it. The Count's countenance was ſerious, expreſſing devotion and humble repentance. As ſoon as he trod on the ſcaffold, he took his hat off, and did not put it on again. His ſentence was proclaimed in the ſame manner as Count Brandt's. The clergyman held a ſhort diſcourſe to the Count, adminiſtered the ſacerdotal benediction to him in the ſame manner as Abbé Hee did to Count Brandt, and gave him alſo up to the executioner. The executioner broke the Count's coat of arms with the ſame ceremony as before, and flung it on the ground. Count Struenſee took a white handkerchief out of his pocket to give it to the executioner to blindfold him; but on being told it was not neceſſary, he put it up again. He took his fur-cloak and hat, put them aſide, and began to undreſs himſelf, in which he was aſſiſted by the executioner; he alſo kneeled down of his own accord. When the executioner had laid him aright, and cut off the hand, he aroſe a little from the block, but in the very moment the head was ſevered from the body; mean while Paſtor Munſter continued to ſpeak to him. The manhood and intrails were put into a ſeparate tub, and the body, after being quartered, was let down into another waggon. Both of them were conveyed without the weſt-gate of the city, and there faſtened on wheels in a conſpicuous place. The ſpectators were exceſſive quiet during the whole of the execution."

"*London, May* 26. The following account of Count Struenſee is tranſmitted from Hamburg.—The Count was born at Halle, Aug. 5. 1737. His father was paſtor of the pariſh of Ulric. He began his firſt exerciſes in a public ſchool in that city; after which he was removed to the univerſity there, where he ſtudied phyſic, and received his Doctor's degree. In 1757 he went with his father to Altona, where the latter was appointed firſt paſtor, with the title of Eccleſiaſtical Counſellor to the King. Soon after the ſon was appointed Phyſician to the Signiory of Pinneberg, and of the county of Rantzau. Here he practiſed his art with great ſucceſs; and was in ſuch a ſituation as to have lived happily, contentedly, and eſteemed. But how few can properly enjoy the precious ſtate of mediocrity! In 1768 he was appointed Phyſician to the King, and choſen to accompany him on his travels to England [xxx. 548.], Holland, Germany, and France. This unhappily was the beginning of his greatneſs. He accompanied his Majeſty throughout, and gave him the greateſt proofs of his zeal and attachment, and had more than one opportunity of exerciſing his ſkill in the medical way both on the King and Queen. His aſſiduity and addreſs ſoon gained him

the affections of their Majeſties, and the King appointed him his Reader. On the 12th of May 1769, his Majeſty inveſted him with the character of Counſellor of State, two days after with that of Counſellor of Conference, and in December following appointed him Maſter of Requeſts. In the month of July 1771, he was declared Miniſter of the Cabinet, and at the ſame time raiſed to the dignity of a Count, and inveſted with the order of Queen Caroline Matilda: ſo that he enjoyed his height of greatneſs little more than ſix months. It is falſe that he was accuſed of diverting to his own uſe fifteen tons of gold from the treaſury, it being only ſix; but when his accuſers were at work, it was as eaſy to write the one ſum as the other."

"*London, May* 1. The ſenſible part of the nation now ſee, that the Britiſh court itſelf, by ſuſpending the operations intended againſt Denmark, and agreeing to the perpetual impriſonment of the Queen, ſeems tacitly to acknowledge her guilt. All it has done is, to procure a remiſſion of puniſhment, if it has even procured that; and the torrent of abuſe lately poured againſt the Danes in our prints, appears to be totally without foundation."

"*London, May* 17. They write from Copenhagen, that the day after the execution of Counts Struenſee and Brandt, the Count Wolinſki was carried before the commiſſioners, and convicted of calumniating the King and Queen-dowager. He was ſentenced to have his tongue cut out, and be baniſhed the King's dominions. The former was executed immediately. The ſame letters add, that the commiſſioners had deſired a guard of his Majeſty for the preſervation of their lives (which were threatened), which was granted; and the guard of the Queen-dowager is increaſed with thirty men from the King's own troop."

"*Hamburg, May* 12. According to letters from Copenhagen, the King has lately ſigned a teſtament, reſpecting the adminiſtration of his dominions, ſuppoſing that his Majeſty ſhould die before the Hereditary Prince is of age. Theſe letters add, that this act has been confirmed by the council of ſtate, and ſent ſealed up to all the departments, to be opened only on the demiſe of the King, in the above-mentioned caſe."

"*Copenhagen, May* 9. By his Majeſty's order an edict is publiſhed, wherein all perſons who ſhall endeavour to bring to life again any perſon or perſons ſeemingly dead or drowned, ſhall have a reward of five Daniſh ducats, (or two guineas), beſides all other expences: a printed deſcription what methods to uſe in ſuch caſes is for that purpoſe given gratis." [34.]

GERMANY.

"*Gottingen, March* 24. A beggar, who had a very voracious appetite, and who accuſtomed himſelf to ſwallow, after his victuals, flints, ſelts, and other things, died, not long ſince, ſuddenly, at Ihlefeld. The judge of the place being deſirous to know the effect of this very ſingular caſe, ordered the body to be opened in the preſence of ſeveral of the faculty. The ſtomach was very ſpacious, and capable of containing ten pounds of water; and they found pieces of meat undigeſted, and ſeveral flint ſtones and other things in his inſide. This man uſed to eat thirteen pounds of beef, and drink twelve meaſures of wine, without being diſordered." *Utrecht gaz.*

UNITED PROVINCES.

"*Hague, May* 5. The Governor of Surinam has repreſented to the directors of that colony, that unhappily the natives of the country have invaded and demoliſhed ſome of the diſtant plantations; and that, for want of troops, he was not able to quell them. This news has occaſioned a great deal of conſternation, and the directors are taking the neceſſary meaſures to remedy the evil complained of."

"*Hague, May* 12. The directors of the Surinam company have laid before the States-General a letter, giving an account of the bad news from that colony. According to this letter, a freſh party of fugitive Negroes, more in number than any heretofore, have retired into the woods and marſhes, whither it is impoſſible to follow them, and have taken an oath to pillage all the plantations, and defend themſelves againſt the Whites to the laſt extremity. This league is daily increaſing by the other ſlaves, who are conſtantly joining them from the different plantations, ſo that they are greatly fearful the Whites will be overpowered by their great numbers. The directors therefore beſeech the States to grant the inhabitants of Surinam the ſuccours neceſſary in their perilous ſituation."

"*Amſterdam,*

"*Amſterdam, May* 14. The deputy-counſellors, of the admiralty of this city have publiſhed the following declaration. "The States-General of the United Provinces give notice, by theſe preſents, to all and every perſon, That the Emperor of Morocco having in a manner declared war againſt the Republic, they are cautioned to be on their guard againſt the corſairs of the ſaid Emperor; to uſe precautions, on the one hand that the merchants ſhips commit no hoſtilities, and, on the other, to take care that they be not ſurpriſed unawares."

"*Amſterdam, May* 13. The day before yeſterday, at half paſt eight in the evening, this city was ſuddenly thrown into a conſternation. The Flemiſh company performed two operas at the Dutch theatre. They were performing the ſecond, *The Deſerter*, and were near the end of the piece, when it was diſcovered that one of the lamps on the right at the bottom of the theatre had ſet fire to a rope that run along the wing of a flat ſcene. They endeavoured to extinguiſh it, but in vain; it ſoon communicated itſelf to the ſcene, and in an inſtant the whole theatre was in flames, which ſoon reached the ceiling and the roof. The cryſtal luſtres after fell in the midſt of the ſpectators, the number of which was very great. Every one endeavoured to ſave himſelf; but unhappily the little paſſage towards the *Princegragt* was ſhut. The confuſion and the croud were inconceivable, eſpecially among people of diſtinction, who were in the boxes and the pit. They ſhut the principal door, becauſe the exterior air drove the flames towards the ſpectators. Even this precaution increaſed the diſorder and deſpair: many people fainted away, or were ſtifled. The ſervants, who waited for their maſters in the court, forced open the door, and ſeveral of them gave extraordinary marks of zeal and fidelity. There were even ſome of them that periſhed in ſaving their maſters. Others, who had already got out themſelves, entered again to recover their parents or their children, and remained with them. By nine o'clock all that edifice appeared on fire; and people had great difficulty in giving it any aſſiſtance. The Engineer Rous, architect of the city, ſeeing that no body would venture to hazard his perſon in directing the water-pipe upon the theatre, threw himſelf bravely upon it, but was ſoon ſuffocated. The flames communicated to ſixteen neighbouring houſes: but after the inſide of the playhouſe was conſumed, the engines were able to play freely. The greateſt fire continued till an hour after midnight; and at four in the morning they began to ſtop the progreſs of the flames, which threatened that whole quarter, and even the city itſelf, becauſe the red-hot cinders flew to a great diſtance. Beſides the playhouſe, with all its decorations, there was nothing but a ſtable and a barn of hay adjoining reduced to aſhes: the other houſes were indeed damaged, but they are ſtill ſtanding. The number of unhappy perſons ſuffocated, trampled to death, or burnt by the ſmoke, the croud, and the fire, is yet uncertain, and perhaps will never be known: it is generally ſuppoſed to amount to 200. In this number are many perſons of fortune and quality, men, women, and children, whoſe diſfigured carcaſes have been dug out from under the ruins. Many of thoſe who had run up to give aſſiſtance have likewiſe periſhed in the flames."

What contributed to the confuſion without doors was the great number of coaches attending; for notwithſtanding the zeal and vigilance of the magiſtrates and burghers, they could not be removed time enough to bring up the engines, which could not play till the whole edifice was on fire; then, by the moſt incredible efforts, the progreſs of the flame was happily ſtopped, which had communicated to the adjoining houſes.

"*London, May* 23. The calamity attending the late fire at the playhouſe at Amſterdam was not ſo bad as has been repreſented; for by a printed account received by yeſterday's mail, it appears, that thirty-one perſons only periſhed on that melancholy occaſion, viz. Mr Louis Andre merchant, Mr Jacob de Neufville van Lennep, and lady; Mr Francois van Ooſtrum, Mr A. de Haas, book-keeper to Mr Colonices; Mr J. Roos, maſter bricklayer; Madame Lups, and her daughter; Madame Teixara, Mr John de Wolff, Mr Pieter van Eyk, Mr Cornelis Rous, city-architect; a bride, unknown; Mrs Wyland, Mr Brinkman, director of the playhouſe; Mr Steffens, figure-dancer; a tailor to the theatre, name unknown; a ſervant of Mr Verhaneme, a Daniſh or German officer, unknown; a gentleman from Rotterdam, name unknown; Mr Kuik, a painter; a captain of Harlingen, a gentleman, from Groningen

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it is thought; two from Zaandam, unknown; a conductor of the fire-engines, two from Alkmaar, unknown; two or three that aſſiſted at the engines. N. B. Mr Rous and Mr Brinkman periſhed by the ſcenes falling on them.

During the above fire, a gentleman was heard, in the midſt of his diſtreſs, to offer publicly a gratuity of 50,000 crowns (5000l. Sterling) to any perſon reſcuing his wife (whoſe hold he loſt through the violence of the throng) from the jaws of death; the attempt appearing impracticable, he was alſo heard to ſay, he could not but ſhare the ſame fate with his wife; —he turned back, threw himſelf in her arms, and both fell; in this affecting poſition they were dug from under the ruins the next morning."

France.

"*Paris, May* 1. The government, in order to train up ſubjects fit for negotiations, has created ſome places under the denomination of Counſellors of Embaſſy, to which young perſons of family are to be promoted; and ſeveral have already been appointed."

"*Paris, May* 4. The laſt advices from St Domingo import, that ſome miſunderſtanding has ariſen between the French and Spaniards relative to their poſſeſſions in that iſland. The Spaniards attempted to do themſelves juſtice with reſpect to ſome diſtrict in diſpute, where they plundered the habitations of the French; who immediately made repriſals; in conſequence of which the two parties came to blows, and many were killed and wounded on both ſides."

"*Paris, May* 15. The 3d inſtant in the evening, a fire broke out in the town of Ecos in Vexin Normandy, which made ſo rapid a progreſs, that in leſs than an hour nineteen houſes were conſumed. Happily no perſon periſhed."

Italy.

"*Venice, May* 4. On the 24th ult. was publiſhed a decree of our magiſtrate, which prohibits the exportation of grain from this ſtate, both by ſea and land, under arbitrary penalties. The bad weather ſtill continues, and makes us fear for the harveſt: The Poleſin, a canton which furniſhes this city with a great quantity of corn, is moſtly overflowed."

"*London, May* 11. They write from Leghorn, that a conſpiracy had been diſcovered at Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia, in which 500 perſons were concerned; but the Viceroy being informed of it, hung up the leaders, and diſperſed it."

"*London, May* 20. Letters from Naples, brought by yeſterday's mails, bring an account of a terrible ſtorm of hail, attended with thunder and lightning, which had happened at Girgenti in Sicily, by which all the fruits of the earth were deſtroyed, and a vaſt number of cattle, and twenty-four perſons, killed. The hail-ſtones weighed twenty ounces. The commandant of the town, in order to diſpel the ſtorm, cauſed ſeveral ſhots to be fired at it; but the cloud being at that time perpendicular over their heads, freſh lightning fell from it, and killed ſeveral of the cannoneers."

"*Rome, April* 18. The reaſon for the departure of Prince Stuart was to meet his ſpouſe at Macerata, where he was to receive the nuptial benediction from the Biſhop. On this marriage taking place, the courts of France and Spain are ſaid to have ſettled a grand appannage on him; and, it is added, that the Princeſs brings with her a portion of 500,000 crowns. [165.]

"*Rome, April* 25. Laſt Wedneſday Prince Stuart, and the Princeſs of Stolberg his conſort, preceded by a number of couriers, and followed by four coaches with ſix horſes, arrived here. Cardinal York came here on Friday to viſit them, and after having converſed till the evening with his brother and ſiſter-in-law, he returned to Fraſcati."

"*Rome, April* 25. When Cardinal York came here to compliment the new-married Lady of Prince Stuart his brother, he made a preſent to that Princeſs of a gold box adorned with brilliants of conſiderable value, and gave her an appointment of 4000 crowns."

Spain.

"*London, May* 14. A veſſel lately arrived at Cadiz from the Caracoa coaſt in America, has brought advice, that the inhabitants of that country are in open rebellion, and that they had armed all the negroes they could poſſibly get together, amounting to 6 or 7000 men, to ſupport themſelves. The King of Spain, on notice of the above, gave orders immediately for a new body of troops to be imbarked for that country with all expedition."

"*London, May* 15. They write from Madrid,

Madrid, that the King of Spain, on the earneſt ſolicitations of the Engliſh ambaſſador, had ſent orders to the Spaniſh governors in the Weſt Indies, with copies of an agreement of the Britiſh court, concerning the limits preſcribed for the Britiſh veſſels in South America and the Bay of Campeachy."

PORTUGAL.

"*Liſbon, April* 21. Letters received from Algarves adviſe, that from the 6th inſt. they have had every day freſh ſhocks of the earth; that five of theſe ſhocks had been preceded by violent ſubterranean noiſes, which had ſo much terrified the people, that they had ſince all lived under tents, the houſes being greatly ſhattered."

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

"*Newbern, North Carolina, Feb.* 21. The following thanks have been given to the officers and ſoldiers of the provincial troops, who ſerved under Governor Tryon, on his late expedition againſt the inſurgents.

"In a letter I have juſt received from the Earl of Rochford, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, I have it in command from the King, to expreſs his Majeſty's thanks to the troops who were in the field on the 16th of May laſt, for their conduct and bravery on that day; by which they have gained ſo great honour, and have been the means, under God, of preventing that deſolation and ravage with which this country was then threatened. [xxxiii. 382.]

It it with great ſatisfaction, Gentlemen, that I bear teſtimony of this gracious mark of his Majeſty's royal favour to you.

Newbern, Feb. 20. JO. MARTIN."

ENGLAND.

The King gave the royal aſſent to the following bills on the 21ſt of May, viz.

An act for raiſing a certain ſum of money, by loans or exchequer-bills, for the ſervice of the year 1772.

An act for the further augmentation of the ſalaries of the Juſtices of Cheſter, and the Great Seſſions for the counties in Wales. —— [viz. 300l. to the Chief Juſtice of Cheſter; 200l. to the Second Juſtice of Cheſter; and 200l. to each of the Juſtices of the Great Seſſions for the counties in Wales, every year; the ſame addition that was made to the ſalaries of the judges in the courts of ſeſſion and exchequer in Scotland [xxi. 284.] in 1759.]

An act for allowing the importation of wheat, wheat-flour, rye, rye-meal, and Indian corn, into this kingdom, for a limited time, free of duty. —— Wheat, wheat-flour, rye, and rye-meal, from any part of Europe, or from any of the Britiſh colonies in America, and alſo any Indian corn from any of the ſaid colonies, may be imported into G. Britain, in any veſſel whatever, at any time till Dec. 1. 1772, without the payment of any duty; provided due entry thereof be made at the cuſtomhouſe belonging to the port of importation; otherwiſe to be liable to the duties payable before the making of this act. [245.]

An act for allowing the free importation of rice into this kingdom, from any of his Majeſty's colonies in America, for a limited time.

An act to indemnify ſuch perſons as have omitted to qualify themſelves for offices and employments; and to indemnify juſtices of the peace, or others, who have omitted to regiſter or deliver in their qualifications within the time limited by law, and for giving further time for thoſe purpoſes; and to indemnify members and officers, in cities, corporations, and borough-towns, whoſe admiſſions have been omitted to be ſtamped according to law, or, having been ſtamped, have been loſt or miſlaid, and for allowing them time to provide admiſſions duly ſtamped; and to give further time to ſuch perſons as have omitted to make and file affidavits of the execution of indentures of clerks to attornies and ſolicitors.

Thirteen bills concerning matters of police, all relating to England, one of them, *for building a temporary bridge over the river Tyne, between the town of Newcaſtle upon Tyne, and Gateſhead, in the county of Durham* [xxxiii. 662.]; and ſix road-bills, one of them, *to continue the term, and alter and enlarge the powers, of ſo much of two acts, 26° & 27° Geo. II. for repairing ſeveral roads leading into the city of Glaſgow, as relates to that part of the road from the city of Glaſgow to the town of Dumbarton, which leads through the county to the town of Dumbarton.*

And to forty-one private bills; none of which relate to Scotland. Nineteen of them are for dividing and incloſing open fields, &c. and one is, to diſſolve the marriage of George Collier, Eſq; with Chriſtiana Gwyn, his now wife, and to enable him to marry again.

On

On the 1ſt of May the budget was opened by Lord North in the Houſe of Commons. After giving a detail of the various proviſions made for the ſervice of the current year, his Lordſhip informed the Houſe, that the whole ſupply amounts to 6,270,000l. and that there remains in the ſinking fund a ſurplus of 1,800,000l. He next entered into the conſideration how this money is to be applied; upon which occaſion he obſerved, that having found his former plan for reducing the national debt did not anſwer his expectations, he made the following propoſal; which was agreed to, and it became a reſolution of the Houſe:

That any perſons poſſeſſed of ſtock in the 3l. per cent. Annuities Conſolidated, or in the reduced annuities, or in the 3l. per cent. Old South-Sea and New South-Sea annuities, or in the 3l. per cent. annuities of 1751, who ſhall, on or before the 15th inſt. May, and before the ſum ſubſcribed ſhall amount to 1,500,000l. ſubſcribe their names or ſignify their conſent to accept, in lieu of their intereſt, 90l. in money every 100l. or in proportion for greater or leſs ſums, one moiety thereof to be paid on or before the 15th of July next, and the other moiety on or before the 20th of October next, with the intereſt due on the ſtock ſubſcribed to the 5th of July, ſhall for every 100l. ſtock ſo ſubſcribed be intitled to receive four tickets in a lottery to conſiſt of 60,000 tickets at the rate of 12l. 10s. each, and in that proportion for greater or leſs ſums. Every ſubſcriber is to make a depoſit of the money to be paid for each ticket, on or before the following days, viz. 1l. the 15th inſt. 2l. June 19. next; 3l. July 22.; 3l. the 21ſt of Auguſt; and 3l. 10s. Oct. 2.

That books be opened at the Bank of England for the above purpoſe, and that no perſon or perſons be admitted during the firſt two days to ſubſcribe or ſignify his, her, or their conſent, for any ſum or ſums amounting in the whole to more than 10,000l. principal or capital ſtock.

The ſcheme being thus laid open, I think it incumbent upon myſelf to ſhow it is the moſt equitable and beneficial that in our preſent circumſtances can be invented, both to the ſtockholder and to the public. That it is the moſt equitable to the ſtockholder is manifeſt; becauſe none is indulged with any preference; the matter being wholly left to his own option, and to the operation of cauſes which admit of little human calculation or controul. That it is the moſt beneficial to the ſtockholder, will appear from conſidering, that it is intended not for a ſingle effort, but as the firſt of continued exertions of the ſame kind and extent to throw off the burden of our debts, and to refund to the proprietors of ſtock their capital. The public debts being thus put into a regular courſe of payment, the ſtocks will naturally riſe, and gradually prove more and more advantageous to the proprietor, till they at laſt riſe perhaps to par. For there was a time when they were at par. Look back twenty-five years, and you will find that it is only ſince that period that they ſold for leſs than their original value. I am ſorry that they are now ſo low, and that it is not in our power to apply a more effectual remedy. But though we cannot effect ſo great a change as Mr Pelham, yet let us attempt what our finances will bear. It is but what we owe to our country and to ourſelves. At preſent there is the faireſt proſpect of the continuance of peace that I have known in my time. Suppoſe it then to continue for ten years; a ſuppoſition by no means extravagant. Peace has already ſubſiſted for nine years: and, if we except the flurry of 1715, and the quarrel with Spain, which hardly deſerve to be conſidered as wars, we ſhall find that peace laſted ſince the memory of man, twenty-ſeven years. Hence the hypotheſis of a ten years peace is by no means chimerical. The pacific diſpoſitions of the French King, who regulates the motions of our great rival and antagoniſt, are well known. What then hinders us from cheriſhing this hope? I know I ſhall be laughed at for forming any calculation upon ſo precarious an event. Let it, however, be remembered, that I aſſert nothing as a certainty. I might as well pretend to command the tides and winds as the paſſions of men. I only aſſert, that at preſent there is the faireſt proſpect of peace that I ever knew. Let us then ſuppoſe that peace will laſt ten years more. What will be the conſequence to this nation, if we continue to pay off annually one million and a half, or the ſame ſum that this lottery, and twelve hundred and fifty thouſand pounds taken now out of the ſinking fund, will produce? Upon calculation I find, that ſeventeen millions will be in that time diſcharged.

diſcharged. Nor will this be the only advantage. The diminution of the annual intereſt payable upon the national debt ariſing from this manœuvre in the finances, will raiſe the income of the ſinking fund ſo, as, in conjunction with the ordinary taxes upon land, malt, and ſo on, to make our annual revenue amount to ſeven millions. Now ſuppoſe us to be at the end of this period dragged into a war, what ſum is it likely to coſt us? Not ſuch enormous ſums as when we ſtood ſingle againſt France and Spain, and at the ſame time protected two Sovereigns. If we imbark no farther in expence than we did in the wars preceding the laſt, our yearly diſburſements will, as I find by computation, be at an average about ſeven millions. Thus then ſhall we be in the ſpace of ten years in a condition, without any additional taxes, to undertake ſuch wars as preceded the laſt. And let it be remembered, that though our ſucceſſes were not ſo brilliant, though we did not gain ſo many glorious victories, nor made ſuch extenſive conqueſts, nor concluded ſuch an advantageous peace, yet we ſat down without any loſs. What prevents us from adopting a ſimilar plan of policy and œconomy upon a future emergency? We do not ſtand in need of any conqueſts. Our dominions are at leaſt as extenſive as we could wiſh; and their improvement, not their extenſion, ſhould be our chief aim. Thus we ſee, what I believe no body expected at the concluſion of the laſt war, ſome, though no very certain, proſpect of gradually reducing the national debt; a ſtep which will neceſſarily raiſe our credit and authority in Europe, and terrify our enemies into pacific meaſures. For it is not only an armed force, not only great armies and great naval forces, that will deter our rivals from violence, but the capacity of raiſing theſe bulwarks when occaſion calls. And the latter method is ſurely preferable to the former, which generally tempts one party or other to commit acts of hoſtility. Such is the plan of defence which ought in my opinion to be adopted by a great miniſter, who has not ſo much to dread from foreign enemies, as from domeſtic foes, from the violence of faction, and the clamour of diſcontent. If he has not the firmneſs and ſteadineſs of mind to deſpiſe ſuch impotent efforts, if he cannot forego the empty applauſe of the preſent moment, for the ſolid praiſe that will be beſtowed upon him, when prejudice wears off, and calm reflection ſucceeds to paſſion, he has no claim to the title of a great miniſter.

Thus have I proved this plan to be the moſt juſt to the ſtockholder, and the moſt beneficial to the ſtockholder and the public. Such objections as occur to me before they are made, I will endeavour to remove; ſuch as do not occur to me I muſt neceſſarily poſtpone till I hear them. It will be aſked, Why this lottery is made more advantageous to ſubſcribers than the laſt? why they are allowed a profit that will in all probability amount to four, or five, or ſix, per cent. I anſwer, That the profit upon the tickets is very caſual and uncertain; but that this lottery was framed upon a liberal plan, that being the firſt trial of a great ſcheme, it might come into the world with ſome eclat, and with a name that might contribute to its ſucceſs. I ſhall not therefore be diſpleaſed if the ſubſcribers gain four or five per cent, or even more. The difficulty of diſpoſing of tickets when the profits are ſmall, is known to every man converſant in this buſineſs. For the ſame reaſon the ſums to be ſubſcribed may amount to ten thouſand pounds, that the great men in the city may think it worth their while to be concerned. Hence, though the ſubſcription is open, and as equal as poſſible, there will be left ſome room for imputation. Some gentlemen may have more gracious aſpects, may be more alert, or even have more bodily ſtrength than others. Any or all of theſe cauſes may operate to their advantage; and if they happen to be the friends of the miniſtry, ſuſpicions will ariſe. People will inſinuate, that they were ſecretly favoured. Such miſrepreſentations all miniſtries are liable to; and the preſent ought not to repine that they are not exempted from the common lot of humanity. Whatever public precautions for making the ſubſcription open could be thought of, have been taken. Matters have been ſo ordered, that the books may be opened on Monday, and there will be but one day to buy tickets on ſpeculation."

On the 4th of May the books at the Bank were opened for the new ſubſcription at eleven o'clock, but more money was ſubſcribed by twelve than was required. There were a great number of people preſent, and if double the ſum

had been neceſſary, it would have been ready. Before one o'clock, after the books had been caſt up, one of the caſhiers informed the perſons who were waiting (which conſiſted of a very numerous body) that the ſubſcription was full: when they immediately retired.

[*The reſt of the Engliſh affairs deferred.*]

SCOTLAND.

The general aſſembly of the church of Scotland met, at Edinburgh, on Thurſday, May 21. [xxxiii. 279.]. —— Mr Robert Walker, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, moderator of the preceding aſſembly, preached a ſermon, upon 1 John iii. 8. in the High church, before the King's Commiſſioner, John Earl of Glaſgow, who appeared in that high character firſt in 1764, and has continued in it every aſſembly ſince; then his Grace, and the miniſters and ruling elders, commiſſioners from preſbyteries, boroughs, and univerſities, who had previouſly given in their commiſſions to the clerks, in terms of the acts of aſſembly, convened in the aſſembly-houſe, as uſual; and after prayer by Mr Walker, the moderator, the names of the commiſſioners being read, and the roll made up, Mr Adam Ferguſon, miniſter at Moulin, in Dunkeld preſbytery, and Dr John Erſkine, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, were put upon the leet for moderator; and the former was choſen, 120 to 93; who thereupon, at the aſſembly's deſire, took the chair. —— The aſſembly being thus conſtituted, the King's commiſſion to the Earl of Glaſgow, and his Majeſty's letter to the aſſembly, which was preſented by his Grace, were reſpectfully read, and ordered to be recorded. Then the Commiſſioner made a ſpeech to the aſſembly; to which the Moderator, in name of the aſſembly, made an anſwer. After which the uſual committees were named, and then the court adjourned till next day.

On Friday, the 22d, the diet was ſpent in prayer as uſual. —— On report of a committee, the following gentlemen were appointed to lecture and preach in the forenoon, and preach in the afternoon, before the Commiſſioner, viz. Mr Thomas Spankie at Falkland, in the forenoon, and Mr James Wright at Maybole, in the afternoon, of Sunday, May 24.; and Mr George Barclay at Haddington, in the forenoon, and Sir Henry Moncreiff-Weiwood at Blackford, in the afternoon of Sunday, May 31. Which they did accordingly.

On Saturday, the 23d, the report of the truſtees of the widows fund having been given in, the Aſſembly unanimouſly affirmed their election of Dr Alexander Webſter, one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, to be the general collector or receiver of that fund [xxxiii. 335.], and continued him in that office.

A commiſſion to Alexander Ferguſſon, Eſq; of Craigdarroch, Advocate, to repreſent the borough of Dumfries in the aſſembly, which the preſbytery of Dumfries refuſed to atteſt, was this day taken under conſideration. —— In the preſbytery it was objected, That as regular attendance on divine ordinances is a neceſſary qualification, they could not atteſt his being qualified, having no evidence of his being regular in that particular. Anſwered, The kirk-ſeſſion of Glencairn, where he generally reſides a part of the year, on proper evidence that he had been ordained an elder at Glencorſe, unanimouſly invited him, April 3. 1768, to become a member of their ſeſſion, and on his accepting, admitted him; — Mr Mutter, one of the miniſters of Dumfries, acquainted the preſbytery, that on inquiry at Edinburgh, he was informed, that Mr Ferguſſon had attended divine worſhip; — for the four laſt aſſemblies he repreſented the preſbytery of Penpont; — and the atteſtation of his being then qualified, proved his continuing regular in that particular at leaſt down to the date of his laſt election. Replied, Theſe atteſtations being only annual, could not be received as evidence after the lapſe of the year. Duplied, The evidence of Mr Ferguſſon's being regular in this particular for ſo many years, is, in juſtice and common ſenſe, a foundation for preſuming that regularity to continue till ſome evidence of the contrary appear. —— The court cauſed read the following papers, viz. the minutes of the preſbytery, containing the reaſons for refuſing to atteſt, alſo reaſons by the diſſenters and complainers, and anſwers thereto, and three petitions and complaints, one for the magiſtrates and town-council of Dumfries, one for Mr Ferguſſon himſelf, and one from the members of the preſbytery who diſſented from the ſentence refuſing to atteſt. Then after hearing parties, and conſidering the affair, a motion was given in in writing to the following purpoſe: That the aſſembly

bly ſhould find the preſbytery's refuſing to atteſt the commiſſion to be unwarranted, and injurious both to the town of Dumfries and to Mr Ferguſſon; and that the aſſembly ſhould ſuſtain the commiſſion, and order this their judgement to be recorded in the preſbytery-book. After long reaſoning, the aſſembly "ſuſtained the commiſſion to Mr Alexander Ferguſſon, notwithſtanding the objection of its not being atteſted by the preſbytery." From which judgement Dr Erſkine and Mr Hector Macphail diſſented. The members being divided in their opinions as to the other parts of the motion, the queſtion was put, Agree to the other parts of the motion, or, Not? and carried, Agree, 111 to 70. Judgement was then pronounced: "The General Aſſembly do further give judgement as follows: That the refuſal of the preſbytery of Dumfries to atteſt the commiſſion of Mr Alexander Ferguſſon of Craigdarroch, Advocate, as elder elected by the town of Dumfries, was unwarranted, and injurious both to the town of Dumfries and to Mr Ferguſſon: and therefore the Aſſembly authoriſe the complainers to furniſh the clerk of the preſbytery of Dumfries with an extract of this judgement; and upon receipt thereof, the Aſſembly ordain him to record the ſame in the preſbytery-books." It was agreed, that liberty ſhould be reſerved to any members that pleaſed to enter their diſſent from this judgement at next meeting.—Accordingly on Monday, the 25th, Mr John Freebairn, in his own name, and in name of all who ſhould adhere to him, entered his diſſent from the above judgement: to which the following members adhered, viz. Meſſ. Charles Niſbet, John Moodie, John Noble, Andrew Walker, Archibald Stevenſon, Dr John Erſkine, Mr John Robertſon Kirkconnel, Sir Henry Moncrief, Meſſ. Andrew Gray, John Kerr, David Gibbon, David Kemp, James Laing, James Bremner, John Gibſon, Thomas Randal, James Mochrie, Robert Spears, Thomas Fernie, James Stirling, Alexander Dick, Hector Macphail, David Connel, Samuel Martin, Alexander Dobie, Colin Campbell, and William Tate, miniſters; and Walter Gibſon, Bailie John Walker, Mr Welſh of Moſsfennan, Bailie John Caw, Charles Jobſon of Dundee, John Macbryde, William Carruthers, Robert Orrock, John Brown Wigton, William Coats, John Haddoway, and Walter Coſſar, elders.—The reaſons were given in, read, and ordered to be kept *in retentis*, the laſt diet of the aſſembly: and were in ſubſtance as follows. 1. Becauſe there was no ſufficient evidence offered to the preſbytery, of Mr Ferguſſon's having given any attendance upon the ordinances of divine inſtitution ſince the date of his laſt atteſtation, though this be included in the requiſite atteſtation of preſbyteries, and although his conſtituents had fair warning given them that ſuch evidence would be inſiſted upon. 2. Becauſe every court called to atteſt poſitive facts, ought to have poſitive information or evidence of theſe facts as often as ſuch atteſtations are demanded. To ſuppoſe the contrary, as this deciſion does, would be to render the preſbytery's atteſtation worſe than a mere form; would expoſe preſbyteries, either to contempt on the one hand, or cenſure on the other; and would deſtroy one of the beſt fences of the purity of our elderſhip; a matter ever much regarded by this church. *Laſtly*, Becauſe the cenſure on the preſbytery of Dumfries implied in this ſentence, is an act of undue and oppreſſive ſeverity to a preſbytery of this church, who ſeem to have acted with the integrity of judges, and agreeably to the ſpirit of our moſt excellent conſtitution; and becauſe no ſuch cenſure is ever attempted in other courts, where the decree is frequently reverſed, but the inferior judges always ſuppoſed to have acted in character, and from the beſt of their judgement.—— [*We are ſorry that we had no acceſs to ſee the reaſons for the preſbytery's refuſal to atteſt, nor the reaſons of diſſent from that judgement, and the anſwers to them; and it were to be wiſhed, that diſſenters from judgements of the Aſſembly would keep exact copies of the reaſons of diſſent; becauſe papers ordered to be kept* in retentis *are not eaſily come at.*]

On Monday, the 25th, a commiſſion to Mr Alexander Hart, writer in Edinburgh, to repreſent the borough of Dunfermline in the aſſembly, was taken into conſideration.—In a petition and complaint for the Provoſt and the other magiſtrates of Dunfermline, againſt the preſbytery, for refuſing to atteſt Mr Hart's commiſſion, it is repreſented, That the oppoſition to Mr Hart proceeded chiefly from Andrew Bowie and John Crawfurd, two members of the town-council, who are Seceders; that theſe two members propoſed another perſon

to repreſent the borough, becauſe he is of different ſentiments from Mr Hart with regard to church-policy; and preſented a petition to the preſbytery, fraught with abuſe againſt Mr Hart, (whom they ſtyle a ſupporter of meaſures deſtructive of the peace of the church), and the petitioners, and alledging, that as an unacting elder he was incapable of being repreſentative for the borough; throwing out many violent and fanatical invectives againſt non-officiating elders, &c.; that this preſbytery had atteſted Mr Hart's commiſſion for the laſt aſſembly, and ſeveral years preceding, and that there was proper evidence of his regularly attending public worſhip ſince; that the preſbytery's refuſal to atteſt was carried, upon a diviſion, three miniſters and five elders, againſt ſix miniſters and one elder, two miniſters voting *Non liquet*; and that four of the miniſters in the minority, and the elder, diſſented from the judgement, and a fifth miniſter deſired it might be marked that he voted to atteſt.—This petition and complaint, and the minutes of the preſbytery, were read in the aſſembly, and parties were heard. Then a motion was given in in writing; and then another motion was made; and after long reaſoning, a vote was put, Agree to the firſt or ſecond motion? and carried, 82 to 70, for the firſt, viz. "The General Aſſembly did, and hereby do, give judgement as follows: That the refuſal of the preſbytery of Dunfermline to atteſt the commiſſion of the borough of Dunfermline in favour of Mr Hart, was unwarranted, and injurious both to Mr Hart and the town of Dunfermline; and therefore ſuſtain the commiſſion: And further, the Aſſembly is of opinion, the recording the petition of Mr Bowie and others was improper, and ordain the ſame to be expunged from the preſbytery records: And upon being furniſhed with an extract of this ſentence, ordain the preſbytery-clerk to record the ſame in the preſbytery-books." The ſecond motion, which did not carry, was, "to ſuſtain the commiſſion, and order the petition of Mr Bowie to be expunged from the preſbytery record."

Afterwards three commiſſions were ſucceſſively ſuſtained without a vote, viz. one from the borough of Kirkcudbright to Mr Alexander Abercrombie writer to the ſignet, one from the city of Edinburgh to Mr Orlando Hart the preſent Convener, and one from the borough of Queen's-ferry to Mr Walter Scot, merchant in Edinburgh.

On Tueſday, the 26th, a commiſſion from the preſbytery of Zetland to their repreſentatives was read; to which was ſubjoined the following atteſtation. "*Braſſay, April* 28. 1772. I Mr Patrick Mair, miniſter of the goſpel at Braſſay, hereby certify, That the above is a true duplicate of the commiſſions by the preſbytery of Shetland to their members choſen for the enſuing General Aſſembly, which commiſſions were atteſted by me, in a meeting of preſbytery held at Neſting the 7th inſtant, as moderator *p. t.* and delivered to Mr William Mitchell and Mr David M'Robert, miniſters choſen to repreſent the preſbytery in the ſaid Aſſembly. [Signed] PATRICK MAIR." It was obſerved by ſome members, that as the commiſſion was, in the atteſtation, called a *duplicate* of the commiſſion; ſo, upon comparing the writing of the commiſſion, and the words ſubjoined to it, *Extracted by Clerk*, with the writing of Mr Mair's atteſtation, the whole ſeemed to be written by the ſame hand. Other members looking into the paper, were of a different opinion. Meſſ. Thomas Hepburn and Robert Sands, having the paper ſhown to them, ſaid, that as they were well acquainted with Mr Mair's hand-writing, they looked upon the whole to be written with his hand. After reaſoning, a vote was put, Suſtain this commiſſion, which bears, in Mr Mair's atteſtation, its being a duplicate of a commiſſion; or, Reject? and carried, Reject, 101 to 74.—In the laſt diet of the Aſſembly, an unexceptionable commiſſion from this preſbytery to their repreſentatives was produced, read, and ſuſtained.

A petition and complaint was given in for the patron, and the heritors concurring with him in a call to Mr David Thomſon miniſter at Gargunnock to be miniſter of St Ninians, complaining of the preſbytery for not obeying the ſentence of laſt Aſſembly. The preſbytery, April 1. reſolved, "That ſome further meaſure ought to be tried with the pariſh, in order to reconcile them to Mr Thomſon;" and appointed the precentor of St Ninians, to intimate from the lettern to the reſiding heritors and elders of that pariſh, to attend the preſbytery on the 21ſt of that month. The minutes of preſbytery of April 21. bear, That "they converſed with the heritors and elders,

ders, in order to reconcile them to Mr Thomson, and having laid several considerations before them, they at last proposed that the elders should go through their several quarters, in order to learn the opinions of the parish, Whether or not they would receive Mr Thomson upon the condition of an assistant, agreeable to the parish, who shall be ordained among them, and paid, not out of their own pockets, but from a fund appropriated to that particular purpose, of which the presbytery has received pretty satisfying evidence;" and one committee was appointed to meet next day, to draw up such things as were to be laid before the presbytery, and another to write to Mr Seton on the affair. Proposals were accordingly prepared, for settling an ordained helper to Mr Thomson, and providing a fund for the helper, both during his incumbency, and in all time coming, on the condition of the parish's agreeing to have him settled among them. At the next meeting of presbytery, May 13. there was produced a letter from three of the heritors in the opposition, bearing in substance, that they could give no answer to the proposals by the presbytery, till they became more explicit, particularly, as they had neither mentioned the salary intended for the proposed helper, nor pointed out the fund from which it was to arise; and another from the elders, much to the same purpose, expressing their desire to see evidence that the proposals would be made good, and that till such evidence was given them, they could give no account of the sentiments of the people. On this the presbytery "resolved to contribute their best endeavours to promote the above scheme, hoping the settlement may be brought to a comfortable issue, in case the said scheme should take place; the presbytery being still of opinion, that the admission of Mr Thomson, in the present situation of that parish, will be attended with the worst of consequences, which they would heartily wish were prevented. And being under a great difficulty how to proceed in that affair, in a consistency with the interest of religion, and the peace of that numerous and extensive parish, they therefore do delay that affair; being persuaded that the General Assembly will not ascribe this their delay to any contempt of their authority, and the more so, that they were left with discretionary power, as to the time of admission." The complainers however say, "they cannot agree to make a bargain in order to secure what they are not only intitled to demand, but in respect to this court bound to insist for; yet they are sensible, that an ordained helper in this large and populous parish, would be very proper; and the patron shall be extremely ready to give his assistance to the promoting this scheme; though, as he is sensible that the digesting it must be a work of time, he cannot agree to have the settlement postponed on that account: but lest his sincerity should be questioned, he is extremely willing that the Assembly, while they order Mr Thomson to be immediately settled, name a committee of such members as reside at Edinburgh, to meet with the persons interested in the parish, and see the settlement of this matter completed between and next Assembly;" and they pray the Assembly to settle Mr Thomson during the sitting of the Assembly, at least to fix the day for his settlement. —— The Assembly, May 26. upon a motion, agreed to take in the St Ninian's cause on Friday the 29th; and appointed a committee to converse with parties, in order to bring about a comfortable settlement, viz. the Moderator, Dr John Erskine, and Mess. Archibald Stevenson, James Brown, John Hamilton Glasgow, and Thomas Turnbull, ministers; and Mr Solicitor Dundas, the Procurator, and the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, ruling elders. —— Next day the report of this committee was given in, viz. "The committee, after conversing with the parties, report it as their opinion, that it will be expedient to order the settlement of Mr Thomson, the presentee, on or before the 20th of November next; and further report, that they find such measures now pursuing for the good of that parish, as there is all reason to believe will give satisfaction to all concerned." The report having been read, and agreed to by the patron and the presbytery, the Assembly ordered the settlement accordingly. —— This virtually discharged the order for taking in the cause on the 29th.

Next was taken in the settlement of Lentrathen, on a petition and complaint of Walter Ogilvie of Clova, Esq; the patron, and of the presbytery of Meigle, and synod of Angus and Mearns, complaining of the sentence of the Commission [xxxiii. 329.]. The Assembly found, that all the members of the Commission who

who were preſent at that diet, and no other, were now parties. After reaſoning, a motion was given in in writing to the following purpoſe: That the Aſſembly ſhould find, that the Commiſſion exceeded their powers, and remit the cauſe to the preſbytery of Meigle, to proceed in the ſettlement according to the rules of the church. Which was agreed to without a vote.

On Wedneſday, the 27th, the Aſſembly, upon a motion, ordered the parties concerned in cauſes before the aſſembly, to diſtribute their printed caſes at leaſt twenty-four hours before the cauſes are to be heard, and to lodge 100 copies at leaſt in the Society-hall.

This day, on a petition for Mr George Mark, preſented to the pariſh of Kirkhill [xxxiii. 330.], (towards whoſe ſettlement the preſbytery of Inverneſs declared, Dec. 3. 1771, they were not at freedom to take any ſteps, chiefly on account of his deficiency in the Gaelic language), the Aſſembly appointed a committee of fourteen members to take trial of his knowledge of that language, and recommended to all the other members who underſtood it to attend the committee.—Next day the committee gave in their report, viz. "That they took trial of Mr Mark's knowledge in the Gaelic language, by making him read four different portions of ſcripture, and turning the ſame into Gaelic; catechiſing him in that language, and making him catechiſe; by hearing him read a portion out of the Gaelic Teſtament; and by hearing him preach and pray in that language; and are of opinion, That he has made remarkable progreſs in the language; that he, for the time he has applied to it, ſeems to underſtand the principles thereof; and that, in a ſhort time, he will be fully capable to teach a Gaelic congregation, if he continue the diligence he has hitherto done."—This was one of the cauſes that were referred to the Commiſſion. Before whom it came on the 2d of June. A petition for the patron, preſentee, and heads of families concurring with the preſentation, and the before-recited report of the committee of the aſſembly, were read, and parties were heard. It was then propoſed, that the Commiſſion ſhould find, That the preſentee not being ſufficiently poſſeſſed of the Gaelic language, is not qualified to be miniſter of that pariſh, and therefore ſet him aſide. Others propoſed, that to this a clauſe ſhould be adjected, reſerving to the patron his right to preſent *de novo*. The firſt clauſe was unanimouſly agreed to; but the queſtion was put upon the ſecond, Adject, or, Not? and carried, Adject, 38 to 30. Mr Boſwell, counſel for the patron, preſentee, &c. proteſted for liberty to complain to the next Aſſembly for redreſs.

On report of the committee for overtures, May 27. the Aſſembly appointed the overture relating to members of inferior courts judging in cauſes appealed from them, and the overture relating to the age of ruling elders [xxxiii. 275, 9.], to be retranſmitted to preſbyteries, that ſuch as have made no returns may ſend up their opinions thereupon to the next Aſſembly; and tranſmitted a new overture concerning young men going without the bounds of this church to obtain licences; and ordered the preſbyteries to take the ſame under their conſideration at their firſt meeting after the acts of aſſembly come to their hand.—The laſt overture runs thus. "Whereas it is a matter of the greateſt importance to the intereſts of religion, to prevent perſons not duly qualified from being licenſed to preach the goſpel; and as it has been often complained of, that ſeveral perſons not qualified according to the acts of this church, have retired out of its bounds to places where they were not well known, in order to obtain a licence; therefore the General Aſſembly prohibit all perſons, educated, or reſiding within the bounds of this church, from going out of its bounds to obtain licences to preach; and enact and declare licences obtained in that manner to be null and void, unleſs it ſhall appear that ſuch perſons have carried with them a recommendation in the uſual form, from the preſbytery where they have reſided."—This overture came from the preſbytery of Perth; who, as a reaſon for propoſing the overture, relate the following fact. "A young man within the bounds of this preſbytery, went lately into England without their knowledge, and afterwards offered to them what he ſaid was a licence to preach the goſpel, which he had procured in the courſe of a few weeks abſence from attending a ſchool; but which licence they could not ſuſtain as a ſufficient one; becauſe it did not appear to them to have been granted by a regular conſtituted preſbytery, or claſſi-

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cal meeting; and becauſe he had gone to obtain it without applying to the preſbytery for ſuch a teſtimonial as is injoined by act 12. 1711; and becauſe there was no evidence laid before the preſbytery of his having ſtudied theology for the time preſcribed by the acts of aſſembly."

The ſettlement of Marykirk was taken under conſideration on the 27th. —— In 1766 the King's College of Aberdeen ſold by auction the patronages of ſixteen churches in their gift. The Earl Fife became purchaſer of moſt of them; but John Brymer merchant (or, as the oppoſers of his preſentee deſign him, an innkeeper) at Marnock-kirk, Bamffſhire, purchaſed the patronage of Marykirk, or Aberluthnot, in the preſbytery of Fordun. This pariſh having become vacant in ſpring 1771, Mr Brymer preſented his own ſon, Mr John Brymer, who had been ordained by the preſbytery of Strathbogie in 1768, upon a repreſentation that "he intended to go for London, to look out for ſome kind of encouragement till his friends in Scotland ſhould have it in their power to provide for him." Objections by the elders and heads of families were laid before the preſbytery, amounting to a charge of ſimony againſt Mr Brymer, and mentioning particularly the acts of aſſembly 1759 & 1753 [xv. 255. xxi. 267.]. The preſbytery, however, July 3. 1771, found the objections not ſufficient to ſtop their procedure; and therefore reſolved, *uno tantum contradicente*, [an elder, who had not objected at the moderation], to proceed immediately to the admiſſion of Mr Brymer. An appeal to the ſynod was entered. This produced a queſtion in the preſbytery, Whether they were at liberty to proceed to the admiſſion? and it being carried, without a diſſenting voice, excepting that of one elder, to proceed, they immediately adjourned to the church, and, after hearing ſermon, admitted Mr Brymer. This ſentence was, on the queſtion put, affirmed by the ſynod, Oct. 23. And an appeal brought the cauſe before the Aſſembly. In anſwer to the charge of ſimony, it was ſaid for the patron, That the ſpecies of this crime known in the Roman law were numerous, among which was that of acquiring eccleſiaſtical benefices for money; but that by this was underſtood, not the acquiſition of a right of patronage, which has always been the lawful ſubject of ſale, but a preſentation by the patron, or admiſſion by the church. Anſwered, It is averred, and offered to be proved, by the oath of the preſentee, that his father made this purchaſe with the deſign of giving the preſentation to his ſon, and with that deſign only; ſo that he, as patron, could have no *delectus perſonæ*, could exerciſe no judgement, in making choice of a fit paſtor for the charge; in ſhort, that the preſentee's claim to be miniſter of this pariſh was bought. Replied, As the purchaſe was made many years before the death of the late incumbent, when there was no reaſon to ſuppoſe that event near, or that the purchaſer's ſon, who was not then a preacher, would remain unprovided till that time, it is not eaſy to ſuppoſe that a prudent man would have made the purchaſe ſolely with that view. But if it ſhould be taken for granted that ſuch was Mr Brymer's view, there was nothing unlawful in it, far leſs would it amount to ſimony. It will be difficult to point out a law or precedent which voids the preſentation made by the purchaſer of a patronage, becauſe at the time of the purchaſe he had determined with himſelf to preſent a particular perſon for whom he had a regard. The law does not hinder a patron's being influenced by affections, provided they be juſt and natural, but only his being corrupted by money or other ſordid motive, which it has juſtly made a ground for voiding his choice; neither is it material whether the affection ariſes from friendſhip, or from blood, as in the preſent caſe. And as this caſe does not fall within the letter, ſo neither does it fall within the ſpirit of the laws which prohibit ſimony: for though a father may eaſily be ſuppoſed to entertain a more favourable notion of his ſon's qualifications than he deſerves; yet the church, which has the power of inquiry into and judging of them, runs no hazard from any error he may fall into in that particular; and the laws againſt ſimony are not founded on a preſumption that the patron is thus biaſſed in his judgement, but on the direct evidence of the preſentee's immoral character, ariſing from his attempting, by himſelf or others, to corrupt the patron, and attain from his avarice that title to an office in the church which he ought to beſtow from motives of regard and eſteem. —— After hearing parties, and reaſoning, the Aſſembly agreed, without a vote, to affirm the ſentences of the ſynod and preſbytery.

On Thurſday, the 28th, a letter from the

the Moderator of the ſynod of New York was produced, and read, viz.

"To the Rev. the Moderator of the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland, Edinburgh.

REV. SIR,

The Synod of New York and Philadelphia now met, have received, and publicly read, the letter dated the 4th of June laſt year [xxxii. 689.], from the General Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland; and it gave the Synod very ſenſible pleaſure, to find that their expreſſions of regard, attachment, and propoſal of correſpondence, were not unacceptable to the Aſſembly.

The congregations under the inſpection of this Synod continue yearly to increaſe in number, and we are doing every thing in our power to ſettle them in regular church-order, and to provide them with miniſters properly educated, and of approved piety and literature. For this purpoſe, beſides many ſchools, and ſmaller ſeminaries, we have the college of New Jerſey, which has a royal charter, with the moſt ample privileges, and which the whole Preſbyterian body here are exerting themſelves in the moſt vigorous manner to put upon a reſpectable footing: nor have their endeavours been unſucceſsful. But though this college is at preſent in a moſt flouriſhing and promiſing ſtate, it is not to be ſuppoſed that it can, for ſeveral years yet to come, ſend out a ſupply equal to our very great demands; which was the reaſon of our ſignifying in our laſt, that what we wanted chiefly was miniſters. This is ſtill our ſituation, and will, it is likely, continue to be ſo for many years; and it was one end we propoſed in writing to the Venerable Aſſembly, that our neceſſities might publicly be known, and perhaps ſome young men of piety and zeal might be diſpoſed, of their own accord, to move to this corner of the church of Chriſt, as to an opening ſcene of uſefulneſs.

We take it as a particular mark of the Aſſembly's regard, that they have appointed a committee to correſpond with us, which we will endeavour to avail ourſelves of when any opportunity preſents itſelf. But as to ſending an account of particular vacant congregations [xxxii. 690.], that miniſters may be ſent out with an expreſs deſtination to them, we find that it is for the moſt part impracticable; and we apprehend, even where practicable, it would be upon the whole improper. — It would be for the moſt part impracticable, becauſe very few congregations here could be prevailed upon to give a blank call, or engage to take a miniſter before they had ſeen and heard him: and if even they ſhould in ſome inſtances do ſo, there would be a great probability of differences ariſing between the miniſter and people, to which we could not eaſily apply an effectual remedy, and a few ſuch ſeparations would be a great diſcouragement to future emigrants. Theſe, and ſome other circumſtances, which render it uncertain whether a miniſter from ſuch a diſtance would be pleaſed with a people, and they with him, were the reaſons for writing as before; and we are ſtill of opinion, that it is from voluntary removals only that we can look for aſſiſtance. For this purpoſe, we wiſh it to be known, that any young gentleman who comes over, well recommended for the ſoundneſs of his principles in point of doctrine, and who is ſtrict and exemplary in his morals, can ſcarcely fail of being employed, and provided for.

We beg leave to mention our expectation, that manifeſting and maintaining our connection with the church of Scotland, may be the means of ſecuring our conſtitutional privileges, eſpecially our religious liberties: not that we apprehend any injury at preſent, but future contingencies are uncertain, and we eſteem it an advantage, that our ſtate and importance ſhould fall under the public notice, as well as that we ſhould have the opportunity, on any emergency, of aſking the advice and aſſiſtance of your reſpectable body.

We moſt ardently pray for the bleſſing of the God of heaven on you and your labours, and that the admired conſtitution of the Church of Scotland may be preſerved in its purity and vigour to the lateſt ages.

The above, after being publicly read, is ſigned, in the name and by appointment of Synod, by

REV. SIR,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,

WILLIAM RAMSAY Moderator."

Philadelphia, May 27. 1771.

The Aſſembly continued the committee of correſpondence with this ſynod appointed [xxxii. 284.] by the aſſembly 1770, and ordered the letter to be given to them.

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On two petitions from the presbytery of Dumblane, concerning the erection of Norristown, the Assembly appointed a committee of eleven ministers and two ruling elders, to consider them, and report. The report was given in on the 30th, bearing, "That the state of the Norristown fund is as follows, viz. 50 l. Sterling, and 40 bolls victual, meal and bear, *per ann.*; that the charges of management amount to about 3 l. Sterling annually, which fall to be deduced from the above: therefore the committee are of opinion, That the salary of the minister should be augmented, according to a resolution of the assembly 1766, from 750 to 900 merks; and accordingly that the salary should be, 30 l. Sterling, and the said 40 bolls meal and bear; and if he pleases the piece of ground called *the Orchard*, he paying the present rent for it: And with respect to the manse that is desired, That 600 merks offered by the Assembly 1770 should still be offered, provided the people of Norristown contribute whatever else is necessary for building the said manse, according to their former engagement." The Assembly agreed to this report, and ordered accordingly. [xxxiii. 273.]

The settlement of Kinglassie in the presbytery of Kirkaldy [xxxiii. 330.] was taken into consideration on the 28th, to which parish John Earl of Rothes presented Mr Thomas Mitchell probationer. A doubt having been expressed, Whether or not the parties were properly sisted before the assembly? the question was put, Receive in this cause, or, Not? and carried, Receive, 114 to 61. — It was then pleaded for the opposers of the presentee, That no regard should be had to an extrajudicial paper given in to the presbytery, signifying a concurrence for the presentee, except in so far as two of those who signed it were present in the presbytery, and acknowledged their subscriptions; they protested against receiving it, as the parish had never seen it, and it was a spurious paper; and two members of the presbytery then at the bar, said, they looked upon it as spurious. After hearing parties, and considering the affair, it was proposed to reverse the sentences of the synod and presbytery, to sustain the call, and to appoint the presbytery to proceed to the settlement of the presentee. But other members proposing a delay, and to appoint the presbytery to deal further with the people, to reconcile them to the presentee, the question was put, Proceed, or, Delay? and carried, Proceed, 93 to 84. After further reasoning, the question was put, Affirm, or, Reverse, the sentences of the synod and presbytery? it being understood, that if it should carry Reverse, the Assembly sustained the call, and appointed the settlement of Mr Mitchell; and it carried, Reverse, 96 to 76. "Therefore the General Assembly did, and hereby do, reverse the sentences of the synod and presbytery complained of, sustains the call to Mr Mitchell the presentee, and appoints the presbytery of Kirkaldy to proceed to his settlement as minister of the parish of Kinglassie, with all convenient speed, according to the rules of the church." — The court allowed such members as chused to dissent, to do so next day. Accordingly a dissent was entered on the 29th. The reasons were given in the last diet of the Assembly, read, and ordered to be kept *in retentis*. The following were the members who dissented, viz. Mess. Archibald Stevenson, William Tait, John Freebairn, James Morison, James Laing, Andrew Walker, Patrick Baillie, Andrew Hally, John Gibson, David Bannerman, Dr Erskine, Mess. John Kerr, John Noble, —— Hamilton Glasgow, Hector Macphail, Alexander Fraser, Andrew Hunter, Robert Walker, George Watson, Thomas Randal, Patrick Maxwell, David Kemp, —— Robertson Kirkconnel, Charles Nisbet, Alexander Dobie, David Macgibbon, —— Mackaill, Richard Scott, Alexander Dick, Robert Cooper, John Macbride, Bailie John Walker, Mr Walter Scott, Mr Walter Gibson, Mr Thomas Edgar, Bailie William Tod, Dean of Guild Hog, Mr Welsch Mosfennan, Mr Robert Orrock, Bailie Tulloch, Bailie Black, Mr Carruthers, Mr John Haddoway, Mr William Welsh, Mr Brown Wigton.

On Friday, the 29th, the Assembly ordered the thanks of the House to be given to Dr John Walker, minister of Moffat, who visited the western highlands upon a renewed commission by the preceding assembly [xxxiii. 279.]; and copies of his report to be transmitted to the royal-bounty committee, and the trustees for the forfeited estates. Next day they ordered a copy of it to be transmitted likewise to the society for propagating Christian knowledge.

The settlement of Blantyre was this

day taken under conſideration.—This pariſh became vacant in December 1769. Mr David Erſkine, writer to the ſignet, patron, preſented Mr John Finnie probationer. The preſbytery of Hamilton delayed giving judgement in the cauſe till certain queſtions of a civil nature ſhould be determined in the civil courts. On an appeal, the ſynod of Glaſgow and Air remitted the cauſe to the preſbytery with inſtructions.——Two only of the objections ſhall here be ſtated.—*Obj.* 1. My Lord Blantyre, who conveys the right of preſentation to Mr Erſkine, is not himſelf qualified by taking the oaths to government; and, conſequently, could not himſelf have granted a preſentation; and his conveyance to Mr Erſkine, for the purpoſe of enabling him to preſent for this vice, being calculated to elude the law, is colluſive and void; ſo that no preſentation from him ſhould be ſuſtained. *Anſwer.* Mr Erſkine, in whom the right of patronage now ſtands, is admitted to be qualified; conſequently his preſentation does not fall under the clauſe of the act 10° *Ann.* which declares all preſentations to be void, unleſs the patron has qualified, either prior to the granting his preſentation, or at the time of its being ſubſcribed: and it is of no conſequence, whether Lord Blantyre, his author, be qualified or not; for there is no law which obliges a patron to qualify in order to his granting an effectual conveyance.—*Obj.* 2. The preſentee being humpbacked, that blemiſh in his figure diſqualifies him for the office of the miniſtry, by the Moſaic law, Lev. xxi. 17.—23. from which it appears, that no perſon, though of the ſeed of Aaron, was allowed to offer at the altar, if he had any blemiſh in his body; which was alledged to be obligatory in this particular. *Anſ.* It will be plain, from the peruſal of the paſſage referred to, that the circumſtances which it mentions, as excluding from offering at the altar, have never been conſidered by the law of this country, or the practice of the Preſbyterian church, to diſqualify from the miniſtry, which is evident from their having, in a late inſtance, diſregarded the exception of blindneſs, though plainly one of the moſt hurtful blemiſhes to which a man can be ſubject. [xxiii. 274.]—— After reaſoning on the affair, the Aſſembly, without a vote, ſuſtained the preſentation, and appointed the preſbytery of Hamilton to proceed to the ſettlement of the preſentee as miniſter of the pariſh of Blantyre betwixt and the next meeting of the ſynod of Glaſgow and Air, according to the rules of the church; and appointed the Commiſſion in November, or any ſubſequent meeting, to take in any reference, complaint, or appeal, with reſpect to this matter, with power finally to determine therein.

Next were taken into conſideration a petition of the preſbytery of Jedburgh, and a petition of Meſſ. Alexander Stuart and John Warden, commiſſioners appointed by the preſbytery of Edinburgh to proſecute the tranſlation of Dr James Macknight from Jedburgh to be one of the miniſters of Edinburgh. Meſſ. Stuart and Warden, in their petition, ſet forth, That they waited on the preſbytery of Jedburgh, and preſented a call from the city of Edinburgh to Dr James Macknight; in conſequence of which all parties concerned were ordered to be regularly ſummoned to appear at a following meeting; that having accordingly appeared at that meeting, they were ſurpriſed to find, that, notwithſtanding this poſitive appointment, Dr Macknight objected, that he had not been ſummoned; that nevertheleſs they conſented to ſuffer the matter to be delayed till a future meeting, to which the Doctor was cited *apud acta*; and that at that meeting the preſbytery, inſtead of giving a deciſive ſentence, referred the whole affair to the Aſſembly, from which ſentence they appealed: and they pray the Aſſembly to tranſlate Dr Macknight from his preſent charge to Edinburgh, leaving it to the preſbytery of Edinburgh to admit him with all convenient ſpeed.—After hearing parties, and reaſoning on the affair, the Aſſembly "did, and hereby do, tranſport Dr James Macknight from the pariſh of Jedburgh to the city of Edinburgh; and appoints the preſbytery of Edinburgh to admit him as one of the miniſters of Edinburgh, with all convenient ſpeed, according to the rules of the church: but the Aſſembly declare, that his relation to Jedburgh ſhall not be conſidered as diſſolved till he be admitted to Edinburgh."

On Saturday, the 30th, the Aſſembly tranſmitted to preſbyteries an overture, for rectifying an abuſe introduced into the church, of ordaining perſons elders in pariſhes in which they have no reſidence, and ordained preſbyteries to ſend

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up returns thereupon to the next Assembly. But an overture from the synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, That the General Assembly shall pass no new regulation, relating to their own constitution, the qualifications of their members, or the forms of their commissions, into an act, until an overture thereanent shall have been regularly transmitted to presbyteries, and approved of by a majority of them, which had been transmitted from the committee for overtures, and had been on the table from the day before, was rejected.

A petition and representation of the presbytery of Dumblane was laid before the Assembly, setting forth, That John Campbell writer in Stirling having behaved improperly to the presbytery, and to their moderator and clerk, on different occasions, (the particulars of which behaviour are specified), the presbytery, on the 9th of January last, resolved to exclude Mr Campbell from appearing before them afterwards as a procurator or agent in any cause, and to intimate this to all within their bounds, that no body might be disappointed in employing him; and that all the members who constituted the meeting of Jan. 9. had been served with a summons, to appear before the court of session, in a process of reduction and declarator, at Mr Campbell's instance, for reducing the aforementioned sentence, and for high damages; and the presbytery add it as their opinion, that it is a right competent to every ecclesiastic as well as civil court, to judge of the qualifications and characters of those who plead before them, and to admit or refuse them as they shall see cause; and also, after admitting, to debar them when they behave improperly; otherwise courts would be scenes of endless debate and confusion. On a reference by the Assembly, the following opinion was given on this petition: "The Procurator has read over this petition, and the relative papers; and is of opinion, that the procurator and agent should be appointed to defend the presbytery of Dumblane on the public funds of the church." The Assembly, May 30. appointed accordingly.

This day the report of the committee appointed by the preceding Assembly to consider the overture concerning the improvement of ministers glebes, was called for; but it not being ready, the Assembly continued the committee, with the same powers as formerly.

Next was taken in a petition and representation for Mrs Nisbet; setting forth, *inter alia*, That whether the collection appointed by the assembly 1767 [xxix. 333.], and renewed by the assembly 1768, was made, she does not know; but she received nothing, except about 30s. by the hands of Dr Macqueen, and 5l. by the hands of Dr Webster, which he received from Sir Laurence Dundas; that application was made by these two Rev. Gentlemen in her behalf to the Barons of Exchequer, but without success; and that she is in great distress. The facts, and particularly Mrs Nisbet's distressed circumstances, are attested by Drs Webster and Macqueen.—The Assembly renewed their recommendation to the synods of Orkney, and of Sutherland and Caithness, and recommended to the synod of Ross, to make a collection for her throughout their respective bounds.

The report of the committee on the order of the house, and the better accommodation of the members, was given in this day, and read; and the Assembly agreed to the opinion of the committee, for continuing them, as had been done at a former diet.

Next the court took under consideration a petition for Mr William Macmaster, preacher of the gospel [xxxiii. 277.], appellant from two sentences of the presbytery of Stranraer, by which they were unanimously of opinion, that a libel, charging him with uncleanness, falsehood, subornation of falsehood, and dissimulation, (the vitiation of a certificate excepted), was proven, or acknowledged, so as to infer censure; and therefore unanimously declared him unworthy of being a preacher of the gospel; and deprived him of his licence to preach the same, and ordered his name to be erased out of the list of probationers within their bounds. Appearance was made for the appellant, for his libellers, and for the presbytery. The clerk having informed the court, that no extract of the proceedings, nor reasons of appeal, had been transmitted by the committee for bills, the Assembly, after hearing parties, unanimously found, that the said sentences were final, no regular appeal having been taken, and followed forth against them, and therefore dismissed the petition.

Aberfoil settlement was likewise taken in this day, on a petition for the Duke of Montrose, the patron. Appearance

was made for the patron, for the oppofers of the preſentee, and for the preſbytery of Dumblane. The before-mentioned petition, and the report of the preſbytery of Dumblane, and thoſe who were joined with them in the remit of the Commiſſion [xxxiii. 130.], were read, and parties were heard. The Aſſembly then proceeded to conſider the affair: and ſome members being of opinion, that the Aſſembly ſhould ſuſtain the objection againſt the preſentee, of his want of the Gaelic language, and therefore that the Aſſembly ſhould ſet him aſide, as unqualified to be miniſter of that parith; but others being of opinion, that the Aſſembly ſhould remit to the preſbytery, with correſpondents joined with them, to make a more particular and exact inquiry into the ſtate of the parith as to their underſtanding the Engliſh language; the Aſſembly, after further reaſoning, put the queſtion, Suſtain, or, Remit? and it carried, Suſtain, 88 to 39. "Therefore the General Aſſembly did, and hereby do, ſuſtain the objection againſt the preſentee, of his want of the Gaelic language; and therefore ſet him aſide as being unqualified to be miniſter of that parith; and reverſes the ſentence of the preſbytery of Dumblane, ſuſtaining the call to him; reſerving to the patron his right to preſent *de novo*." The Aſſembly appointed an extract of this ſentence to be ſent by the Moderator in a letter to the Duke of Montroſe.—A like judgement was given by the Commiſſion in the caſe of Kirkhill. [270.]

On Monday, June 1. the Aſſembly continued the window-tax committee.

On a reference from the preſbytery of Dumbarton in the caſe of the parith of Kintry, the Aſſembly accepted of the reſignation of Mr William Grant, the preſentee; and allowed the Duke of Montroſe, the patron, ſix months from this date, within which time to preſent another perſon.—On another reference from the ſame preſbytery, in the caſe of the parish of Cardroſs, the Aſſembly accepted the reſignation of Mr John Davidſon, the preſentee, and allowed the crown, the patron, ſix months from this date, within which time to preſent another perſon.—In both theſe caſes the ſettlements were going on ſmoothly; the preſentees however choſe to reſign for private reaſons, but expreſſed an earneſt deſire that the patrons ſhould not be prejudiced by the favours done to them.

[*An article or two deferred.*]

MARRIAGES.

At Inverneſs, John Forbes, Eſq; of Culloden, to Miſs Forbes, daughter of Capt. Forbes of New.

May 14. At Greenwich, Charles Murray, Eſq; Conſul-general of the Madeira iſlands, to Miſs Scott, eldeſt daughter of the late Robert Scott, Eſq; of Blackheath.

21. Guy Carlton, Eſq; Governor of Quebec, to the Hon. Miſs Maria Howard, ſiſter to the Earl of Effingham.

25. At the Earl of Exeter's, the Rt Hon. and Rev. the Earl of Harborough, to Miſs Roberts, daughter and ſole heireſs of William Roberts, Eſq; of Glaſton in Rutlandſhire.

30. In Yorkſhire, John Hatfield Kaye of Hatfield-hall, Eſq; to Miſs Wentworth, only daughter of William Wentworth, of Kenlaury, Dorſetſhire, Eſq; couſin and next heir to the title and eſtate of the preſent Earl of Strafford.

BIRTHS.

May 3. At Balbirnie, Fifeſhire, Mrs Balfour, of Balbirnie, of a ſon.

6. At London, the Counteſs of Wigton, of a daughter.

13. At London, the Counteſs of Albemarle, of a ſon.

18. At his Lordſhip's ſeat at Farley, Lady Webb Seymour, of a ſon.

In Ireland, the Counteſs of Tyrone, of a ſon.

24. At London, the Ducheſs of Buccleugh, of a ſon and heir.

25. At Foxhall, near Kirkliſton, Mrs Wilhart, wife of Thomas William Wilhart of Foxhall, Eſq; of a ſon.

27. At Caſtlegrant, Mrs Grant of Grant, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

In Bengal, Mr Charles Dempſter, brother to George Dempſter, Eſq; one of the Eaſt-India directors.

In Bengal, Col. Tobey, aged 88. He has been at that place upwards of fifty years.

March 26. In Antigua, Dr Walter Tullideph, of Tullideph-hall in the county of Forfar.

At Norwich, Eliſabeth Nicols, aged 103.

April 20. At Oporto, the Hon. and Rev. James Horrocks, Commiſſary to the Biſhop of London, in Virginia, Preſident of William and Mary college, and of his Majeſty's council of ſtate for that colony.

22. At Guiſbrough, in Yorkſhire, Joan Jones, in the 103d year of her age.

23. At Buckebourg in Germany, Ferdinand John Benjamin, Count and Lord of Lippe Buckebourg. He ſerved as chief engineer to the Hanoverian troops during the late war,

and

and was afterwards ſolicited to ſerve in the ſame quality in the Portugueſe army, in which he died a lieutenant-colonel.

25. In the parish of Gilly-ſur-Loire, near Bourbon-Lancy, in France, one Gilbert, a cutler, aged 109.

27. At his ſon's houſe in Duhill, Mr George Grant minister of Kirkmichael, in the 80th year of his age, and 48th of his miniſtry.

28. At Bourdeaux, James Gay, Eſq; aged 111. He had been married fifteen times, but never had a child. He is ſaid to have died worth 10,000l. which comes to his niece, a ſervant in a great family.

At Rouen in France, Abram Stodeman, a native of Alexandria, aged 128.

May 2. At Ramſgate, Capt. Tho. Lee, aged 98. He had been ſeven times to the Eaſt Indies, and lately commanded a ſhip to the Weſt Indies.

4. In Southwark, Jane Jenkins, aged 108.

4. At Sevenoaks, in Kent, Mr Hamilton, aged 101.

4. At Putney, Mrs Williams, a widow gentlewoman, aged 109.

5. At London, after a ſhort illneſs, Lady Frances Elliot.

6. At Aberdeen, in his way to London, for the recovery of his health, Hugh Ruſſel, Eſq; late of Tobago.

6. At Wigton in Galloway, of a fever of only eight days continuance, Elizabeth Kevand, innkeeper, one of the ſtrongeſt women in this kingdom.

6. At the ſame place, Mrs Telfer, relict of Mr William Telfer, late bailie there. —— At this time theſe fevers raged with very great violence over all that country.

7. On his return to England from Spa, in Germany, Sir William Stanhope, K. B. brother to the Earl of Cheſterfield, eldeſt Knight of the Bath, except one, viz. the Earl of Breadalbane. He ſerved in parliament ever ſince the 1722, when he was choſen for Aylesbury. By Sir William's death, an eſtate of 8000 l. a-year, with three fine houſes, goes to the Earl of Cheſterfield; and after his Lordſhip's deceaſe, the whole Cheſterfield property deſcends to Philip Stanhope, Eſq;

8. At the Roſe and Crown at Enfield, on his return from Newmarket, Hugh Bethell, Eſq; member for Beverly.

8. At York, John Parſons, Eſq; aged 66, late Major in the King's own regiment of dragoons, now commanded by the Earl of Albemarle, whoſe firſt commiſſion in the army bore date in the year 1709.

12. At his ſeat at Hardwick, Salop, Edward Kynaſton, Eſq; member for the county of Montgomery, which county he repreſented in ſeveral parliaments.

At Liege in Germany, Dr Lefevre, the celebrated gout-phyſician.

15. At Cramond, Dr Gilbert Hamilton, minister of that parish.

18. The Counteſs of Londonderry, greatly lamented by the poor.

19. At Edinburgh, Mary Counteſs of Kintore, widow of John Earl of Kintore.

20. At London, the Dowager Lady Carpenter, grandmother of the preſent Lord Tyrconnel.

20. At Perth, Mrs Irving, ſenior, of Bonthaw.

21. At Aberdeen, Mrs Euphemia Row, ſpouſe of Dr James Forbes, phyſician in Aberdeen.

21. Mr John Adams, miniſter at Fetterick.

22. At London, Lord William Manners, brother to the Duke of Rutland. His Lordſhip was flung from his horſe in Vigo lane, the corner of Old Burlington ſtreet, Piccadilly; when his head pitched againſt a poſt, and the heels of the beaſt ſtruck againſt the pit of his ſtomach: notwithſtanding which, he got up, and walked into a houſe; but expired in a quarter of an hour.

24. At Edinburgh, Lady Anne Hay, daughter of Charles Marquis of Tweeddale, and ſiſter of the preſent Marquis.

25. At Machany, Perthſhire, the Hon. William Drummond, Eſq; ſecond ſon of William Drummond fourth Viſcount of Strathallan, and ſixth Lord Maderty, who died in 1746, and of the Hon. Mrs Margaret Nairne, (who is ſtill alive), eldeſt daughter of William ſecond Lord Nairne, who died in 1725. Mr Drummond married Miſs Anne Nairne, (who is ſtill alive), ſecond daughter of David Nairne, Eſq; a Major in his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's ſervice, and by her has left iſſue two ſons, William and James.

26. At his houſe in Park-Place, Thomas Whately, Eſq; member for Caſtleriſing, one of the under-ſecretaries of ſtate (in the Earl of Suffolk's office) for the northern department, and keeper of his Majeſty's gates, roads, and bridges.

27. At Woodhead, Mr John Swinton of Woodhead, tertius, advocate.

27. At Drumkilbo, near Cupar of Angus, Capt. James Nairne.

29. At Edinburgh, Janet Counteſs of Kincardin, widow of William Earl of Kincardin.

At Walton, Mrs Tate, aged 108.

Near Backworth, in the parish of Earſdon, Mary Metcalfe, aged 108. She had at the time of her death, nine grandchildren, and twelve great-grandchildren, and retained all her faculties to the laſt, except her eye-ſight, which was much impaired four or five years before her death. —— The mother of the deceaſed lived to the age of 104.

28. At Coſſica-hall, near Lewes in Suſſex, occupied by Lord Napier, Mr Loudon, who has been chaplain in his Lordſhip's family upwards of 17 years, —— accidentally ſhot. Mr Loudon, who was in a room with my Lord's

Lord's two ſons, to whom he was tutor, had drawn the rammer from a loaded piſtol, to which he tied ſome tow in order to clean the inſide of a tea-pot. He left the piſtol on the head of the drawers, and it is conjectured that he had accidentally cocked it when he drew the rammer. It afterwards fell down, and diſcharged itſelf in the tail, by which he was unfortunately ſhot dead. An inqueſt was made that day by the coroner; to whom it appeared, that one of the young gentlemen was very near Mr Loudon at the time the piſtol went off, and by the evidence of both the Mr Napiers, (no other perſon being in the room), that neither of them had touched the piſtol, but it had fallen down, and diſcharged of itſelf. — The verdict of the coroner's jury was, that the piſtol, which was lying on the drawers of Mr Loudon's room, had accidentally diſcharged, and that he accidentally, caſually, and by misfortune, came to his death by that means, and not otherwiſe.

20. At Bromley in Kent, Mr Alexander Blackrie, who had practiſed near forty years as an apothecary at that place, author of the Diſquiſition on medicines which diſſolve the ſtone, in which he has inveſtigated Dr Chittick's celebrated noſtrum. [xxviii. 255.]

31. In an advanced age, Mr Lauchlan Maclean, merchant in Glaſgow.

31. At Montroſe, Thomas Mill, whitefiſher, aged about 100. By ſobriety and diligence he acquired a fortune rarely to be heard of among fiſhermen in this country. Among many legacies, he has left to a lady, for whom he had an early and grateful regard, 50l. Sterling; to the poor of Montroſe, 120l. Sterling; and 5l. to be allowed burial within the church, a place to which he always paid a reverential regard.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

War-office, May 7. 1772.

30th reg. of foot: Enſ. James Maxwell is appointed to be Adjutant, vice John Nichola, who reſigns.

Ditto: Lieut. John Nichola to be Quartermaſter, vice Charles Burleigh, who reſigns.

43d reg. of foot: Enſ. Chriſtopher Goulton to be Lieutenant, vice John Hollingbery; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Thomas Wilkinſon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Chriſtopher Goulton; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Surgeon Donald M'Intyre to be Surgeon, vice John Everall, who reſigns.

51ſt reg. of foot: Lieut. Francis Dobbs, of the 63d reg. of foot, to be Lieutenant, vice Henry Lyſaght, who exchanges.

58th reg. of foot: Capt.-Lieut. Arthur Brown to be Captain, vice Thomas Oſborne.

Ditto: Lieut. William M'Myne to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Arthur Brown.

Ditto: Enſ. William De Courcy to be Lieutenant, vice William M'Myne.

Ditto: Thomas Humphrey Lowe, Gent. to be Enſign, vice William de Courcy.

60th reg. of foot: Joſeph Hodgkinſon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Charles Duncan, preferred; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. Thomas Delamain to be Lieutenant, vice James Hughes; by purchaſe.

Ditto: George Brown, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Thomas Delamain; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. Brereton Poynton to be Captain, vice S. J. Hollandt; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. John K. Muller to be Lieutenant, vice Brereton Poynton; by purchaſe.

66th reg. of foot: Lieut. Thomas Caſtle to be Captain, vice Algernoon Warren; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. Henry Mercier to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Caſtle; by purchaſe.

68th reg. of foot: Enſ. Henry Bowyer to be Lieutenant, vice Arthur O'Hara, deceaſed.

Ditto: —— Byron, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Henry Bowyer.

Ditto: Enſ. John Simon Farly to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Jones, deceaſed.

Ditto: Malby Brabazon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice John Simon Farly.

Capt. George Smith, late in the Portugueſe ſervice, to be Captain of foot in the army.

War-office, May 16.

1ſt reg. of dragoon-guards, Cornet William Buckley is appointed to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Innocent; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Fenwick Johnſon, Gent. to be Cornet, vice William Buckley; by purchaſe.

2d bat. of the royal reg. of foot: Daniel Wilſon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Andrew M'Pherſon, who does not accept.

3d reg. of foot: Capt.-Lieut. David Honywood to be Captain, vice Joſeph Fenton, deceaſed.

Ditto: Lieut. Thomas Da Coſta to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice David Honywood.

Ditto: Enſ. Edward Biddulph to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Da Coſta

10th reg. of foot: Enſ. Thomas Verner to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Browne, preferred; by purchaſe.

Ditto: John Forteſcue, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Thomas Verner; by purchaſe.

17th reg. of foot: John Anſtruther, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Richard Potenger, preferred; by purchaſe.

30th reg. of foot: Enſ. Daniel Paterſon to be Lieutenant, vice Walter Batwell, who retires.

Ditto: George Rutherford, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Daniel Paterſon.

31ſt reg. of foot: Enſ. William Johnſton to be Lieutenant, vice Richard Nugent; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Adam Hay, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Richard Nugent; by purchaſe.

35th reg. of foot: William Clerk, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Joſeph Sandford; by purchaſe.

36th reg. of foot: Lieut. Dudley Ackland to be Quartermaſter, vice Francis Cheſter, who reſigns.

39th reg. of foot: Capt. William Kellett to be Major, vice John Corneille; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Capt.-Lieut. Thomas Cuppage to be Captain, vice William Kellett; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. John Pigot to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Thomas Cuppage; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. Richard Amphlett to be Lieutenant, vice John Pigot; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Thomas Daeres, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Richard Amphlett; by purchaſe.

52d reg. of foot: George Carleton, Clerk, to be Chaplain, vice Inglis Turing; by purchaſe.

60th reg. of foot: Lieut. Allan Grant to be Captain, vice John Joſeph Schloſſer; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. David Alexander Grant to be Lieutenant, vice Allan Grant; by purchaſe.

69th reg. of foot: Volunteer William Hamilton, of the Royals, to be Enſign, vice Allan Bright; by purchaſe.

War-office, May 26.

The King has been pleaſed to appoint,

Majors

Joſeph Gorcham, Lieutenant-Governor of Placentia,
John Campbell, of late 78th foot,
Nathaniel Haywood, of late 21ſt dragoons,
John Leland, of late 98th foot,
David Horne, Lieutenant-Governor of Cheſter,
James Johnſtone, of late 101ſt foot,
Charles Lee, of late 103d foot,
Richard Vaughan, of late 79th foot,
Enoch Markham, of late 112th foot,
James Hamilton, of late 113th foot,
Patrick Gordon, of late 108th foot,
Allan M'Lean, of late 114th foot,
Richard Ridley, of late 109th foot,
John Walkinſhaw Craufurd, of late 115th foot,
John Stratton, of the Iriſh artillery,
Charles Erſkine, of late 120th foot,
William Viſcount Wallingford, of the late 121ſt foot,
Theodore Deſvoires, of the late 71ſt foot,
John Wrightſon, of the late 76th foot,
James Murray, of the late 97th foot,
Charles Hamilton, of the 1ſt dragoon-guards,
Maurice Cane, of the 32d foot,
Robert Clayton Bayley, of the 58th foot,
Samuel Zobell, of the late 77th foot,
Allan Campbell, of the 36th foot,
Barry St Leger, of the late 95th foot,
William Morris, of the late 72d foot,
James Rooke, of the late 104th foot,
Sir Alexander Purves, Bart. of the late 103d foot,
James Callendar, of the 67th foot,
Samuel Birch, of the 17th dragoons,
Sir William Arnot, Bart. of the 2d dragoon-guards,
Charles Egerton, of the late 94th foot,
Edward Griffith, of the 4th dragoons,
Martin Tucker, of the 1ſt horſe,

To be *Lieutenant-Colonels* in the Army;

As likewiſe Lieutenant-Colonels

John Barlow, of the 61ſt foot,
Edward Maxwell, of 21ſt foot,
William Style, of 1ſt foot-guards,
Henry Liſter, of 2d foot-guards,
James Robertſon, of 16th foot,
Eyre Maſſey, of 27th foot,
William Tryon, of 1ſt foot-guards,
George Warde, of 4th dragoons,
James Cunninghame, of 45th foot,
Robert Skene, of 59th foot,
Sir William Wiſeman, Bart. of 2d foot-guards,
Flower Mocher, of 3d dragoon-guards,
Joſeph Gabbitt, of the 15th foot,
Robert Sloper, of 1ſt dragoon-guards,
John Darby, of 17th foot,
Staates Long Morris, of late 89th foot,
John Wynne, of 2d horſe,
John Campbell, of late 88th foot,
John Vaughan, of 46th foot,
Thomas Caleraft, of 50th foot,
Ralph Earl of Roſs, of the late 93d foot,
Robert Pigot, of 38th foot,
John Dalling, of 36th foot,
Valentine Jones, of 59th foot,
Ruffel Manners, of 2d dragoon-guards,
Thomas Hall, of the late 74th foot,
Sir Robert Murray Keith, of the late 87th foot,
Spencer Cowper, of 1ſt foot-guards,
James Grant, of 40th foot,
William Phillips, of the artillery,
Richard Maitland, of 43d foot,
William Faucitt, of 3d foot-guards,
David Erſkine, of late 76th foot,
William Earl of Ancram, of the 2d troop of horſe grenadier-guards.

To be *Colonels* in the Army;

As likewiſe Colonels

Lord Adam Gordon,
Fred. Haldimand,
William Alexander Sorrell,
Richard Lambert,
Alexander Maitland,
John Pomeroy,
Archibald Earl of Eglintoun,
Simon Fraſer,
Hunt Walſh,
Thomas Deſaguliers,
George Preſton,
Guy Carleton,
Sir Charles Hotham, Bart.
William Napier,
Thomas Townſhend,
Robert

Robert Clerk,	Henry Campbell,
Sir William Draper,	John Hale,
Ro. Cunninghame,	Robert Boyd,
William Howe,	Henry Clinton,
John Bradſtreet,	Charles Fitzroy,
Lord George Henry Lennox,	Bernard Hale,
	John Burgoyne,

To be *Major-Generals* in the Army;

As likewiſe Major-Generals

John Gore,	William Earl of Shelburne,
James Murray,	William Haviland,
George Williamſon,	William Rufane,
Cyrus Trapaud,	Hamilton Lambart,
Sir William Boothby, Bart.	John Irwin,
William Keppell,	Cadwalladar Lord Blayney,
Richard Pierſon,	Charles Vernon,
Benjamin Carpenter,	William Ganſell,
John Owen,	David Graeme,
Bigoe Armſtrong,	Edward Urmſton,
Edward Harvey,	

To be *Lieutenant-Generals* in the army;

As likewiſe Lieutenant-Generals

Cuthbert Ellifon,	James Abercromby,
Peregrine Duke of Anceſter,	George Earl of Albemarle,
Evelyn Duke of Kingſton,	Francis Leighton,
Hugh Viſcount Falmouth,	Lord Robert Manners.
Simon Earl Harcourt,	John Moſtyn,
Arthur Earl of Powis,	John Earl of Waldegrave,
M. O'Brian Diſkes,	His Royal Highneſs William Duke of
John E. of Sandwich,	Glouceſter,
H. Seymour Conway,	

To be *Generals* in the Army.

From other papers, &c.

New Members of Parliament.

John Skynner, Eſq; whoſe ſeat was vacated by his being appointed one of the Welch judges, unanimouſly rechoſen for Woodſtock, April 10.

John Purling, Eſq; for Eaſt-Looe in Cornwall, in the room of the late Serjeant Leigh. Took his ſeat, April 14.

Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, Bt, for Salop, —— the late Sir John Aſtley, Bt. Took his ſeat, April 28.

James Hare, Eſq; for Stockbridge, —— Richard Worge, Eſq; Took his ſeat, May 6.

May 18. The Earl of Lincoln, ſon of the Duke of Newcaſtle, for Aldborough, —— Andrew Wilkinſon, Eſq; who vacated his ſeat by accepting the place of Steward of the three Chiltern Hundreds.

George Preſcott, Eſq; for Milbourne Port, —— the Earl of Catherlough, deceaſed. Took his ſeat, May 26.

Thomas Bradſhaw, Eſq; for Saltaſh, found to have been duly elected, on his petitioning againſt John Williams, Eſq; the ſitting member; whoſe name the clerk of the crown was ordered to craſe, and to inſert that of Mr Bradſhaw in its room.

Comparative prices of PROVISIONS, *London.*

In 1757.	s.	d.	In 1772.	s.	d.
Beef per lb.	0	3½	Beef,	0	5½
Mutton the beſt	0	3	Mutton, the beſt	0	6
Veal, on an average	0	3	Veal, on an average,	0	5
Pork, ditto	0	3½	Pork, ditto,	0	5½
Butter, Epping	0	10	Butter Epping	1	2
Ditto, freſh	0	8	Ditto, freſh	1	0
D°, Cambridge	0	7	D°, Cambridge	0	10
Cheeſe, on an average	0	3½	Cheeſe, on an average	0	5
Candles,	0	5½	Candles,	0	8
A quartern loaf	0	5½	A quartern loaf	0	8½
	4	4		6	7½

It requires no rhetoric to prove that the houſekeeper, who could but juſt ſubſiſt in 1757, muſt be on the point of ſtarving in 1772. Z.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for May 1772.

Within the city	Males 40	Fem. 30	70	109. Dec. 20.
In the Weſt-kirk-yard	Males 22	Fem. 17	39	

Age.			No	Diſeaſes.	No
Under			2 45	Aged ——	10
Between	2	& 5	17	Bit by a mad cat	1
	5	& 10	10	Bowelhive ——	4
	10	& 20	4	Conſumption —	27
	20	& 30	5	Childbed ——	1
	30	& 40	3	Dropſy ——	3
	40	& 50	6	Fever ——	25
	50	& 60	4	Meaſles ——	2
	60	& 70	6	Small pox ——	26
	70	& 80	5	Stillborn ——	3
	80	& 90	4	Suddenly ——	1
	90	& 100	0	Teething ——	6

Edinburgh, June 19. 1772. Oat meal, 1s. 1d. Bear-meal, 8d. Peaſe-meal, 8 d.

Prices of grain at Haddington, June 5. 1772.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	24 s. 6 d.	23 s. 9 d.	22 s. 0 d.
Bear,	18 s. 0 d.	16 s. 6 d.	15 s. 2 d.
Oats,	15 s. 6 d.	14 s. 8 d.	13 s. 0 d.
Peaſe,	14 s. 8 d.	13 s. 6 d.	12 s. 0 d.

The general average prices of corn began to be diſcontinued in the London gazette of May 2.; and in the gazette of May 23. there is a note, viz. "The general average is omitted; it being thought more proper for the public to make their own concluſions, the prices of each county being ſeparately ſtated." To inſert the price of each particular county of England for every week [50.], would far exceed our limits; we muſt therefore ſatisfy ourſelves with giving the prices of corn at Haddington, and of meal at Edinburgh, which will give a pretty juſt idea of the prices in Scotland.